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## Yom HaShoah solemnly marked on Parliament Hill

By Diane Koven

Yom HaShoah — Holocaust Remembrance Day — was commemorated on Parliament Hill May 1 with solemn prayers and remarks from Holocaust survivors and political leaders.

The ceremony began with the marching on of the Colours by members of the Jewish War Veterans Ottawa Post and the singing of *O Canada* and *Hatikvah* led by Cantor Pinchas Levinson.

The Dvar Torah was delivered by Rabbi Reuven Bulka, spiritual

leader of Congregation Machzikei Hadas and co-president of Canadian Jewish Congress, who told of how many Jews chanted the Shema — *Hear, listen, Israel. The Lord is our God, only the Lord* — as they were marched to their deaths.

This was, said Rabbi Bulka, "a singular expression of confidence, of hope at a time when everything seemed lost."

Child survivor Joseph Gottsdenker related his moving story of being hidden by a Christian family  
(Continued on page 2)



Israeli Ambassador Alan Baker addresses Yom HaShoah commemoration on Parliament Hill.  
(Photo: Howard Sandler)

## Walkathon 2008 coming June 1



Participants en route during Walkathon 2007. For more on Walkathon 2008, see the Federation Report from Walkathon co-chairs Mark Thaw and Sharon Finn on Page 6.  
(Photo: Peter Walser)

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## From generation to generation at Ottawa Yom HaShoah ceremony

By Michael Regenstreif

The theme for the Erev Yom HaShoah commemoration at the Soloway Jewish Community Centre was L'Dor V'Dor, from generation to generation.

The first four of the six memorial candles – each representing a million Jews murdered in the Holocaust – was lit by a Holocaust survivor while a young person talked briefly about how they survived the darkest period in modern history and ultimately thrived in Ottawa.

As moderator Toby Herscovitch explained, the Shoah Committee of Ottawa chose the theme because "it

is every generation's duty to bear witness."

The first candle was lit by Shmuel Feig while Asher Farber spoke about him. The second by Vera Gara while Raphael Szajanski told her story.

The third candle was lit by Erwin Koranyi while Ilana Belfer described how he was one of the Jews rescued by Swedish diplomat Raoul Wallenberg and the fourth candle was lit by Anna Heilman while her story was told by Jessie Schwartz.

Student Jacob Polowin, who had been on the March of the Living, lit the fifth candle while the sixth was lit

by Ambassador Alan Baker of Israel.

"It is all our responsibility to ensure that everybody is aware of what happened, and that it must never happen again," said the ambassador.

The Arie Van Mansum Educators' Award, named in honour of a Dutch Righteous Gentile who later settled in Ottawa, was presented to teachers Judith Verret and Elaine Bryans of Cairine Wilson Secondary School in Orleans for their efforts in teaching their students about the Holocaust. The presentation was made by Erica Harris, Van Mansum's granddaughter.



Asher Farber, survivor Shmuel Feig and moderator Toby Herscovitch at the Ottawa Yom HaShoah ceremony.

(Photo: Matthew Clayton)

## Dion: Our duty to fight hatred and intolerance

(Continued from page 1)

who saved his life by risking theirs.

The survivors have retaliated against the Nazi regime "in the best way possible," said Gottdenker, "by living and contributing to the world in many ways."

But "the world is still not a safe place [and] remembering is not enough. My pain, that of my family, the destruction of my entire childhood is for naught, unless we act in defence of those that cannot protect them-

selves," he said.

Architect, real estate developer and philanthropist David Azrieli was introduced by former MP Richard Marceau as "a powerful testament to the resilience of Holocaust survivors."

Azrieli spoke of the contributions made by survivors in science, the arts and virtually every other field.

"This is our message, a message of life and creative life, a message that rings out

loud and clear. We are alive and this is our victory and this is our revenge against the Nazis ... With this contribution, we show our devotion and our commitment to life," he said.

"We must turn our thoughts, our minds to the living, to the country that gave us the opportunity and that gave us the means of becoming creative individuals again and the country that we are celebrating with great affection, the country that has adopted us: Canada," declared Azrieli.

The government, represented by Minister of Foreign Affairs Maxime Bernier, affirmed its support for the State of Israel.

"We are proud to stand with Israel, a fellow democracy. We are proud to defend its right to survive in freedom, dignity and security. And we are proud to count ourselves among Israel's best friends," said Bernier.

The two-hour ceremony included messages from all of Canada's political parties and was attended by MPs, senators and representatives of more than 40 foreign embassies.

Marceau, who introduced the bill that recognized Holocaust Remembrance Day in Canada, warned of a "new danger" facing the Jewish people in the form of threats from Iran and called on the Canadian government to take action.

"Canada can make a difference," said

Marceau. "Canada can take the right stand against Iran's nuclear aspiration. Iran needs to understand that Canada will not sit quietly, will not stand by and will not do nothing. Yes, today, we remember but today, also, we must act," said Marceau.

"Today, with words and silence, we remember the millions of people, the overwhelming majority of whom were Jews, who were systematically murdered under the Nazi regime," said Opposition Leader Stéphane Dion.

"It is our duty to remember. It is our duty to fight racism, anti-Semitism, hatred and intolerance wherever we find it. We must work every day to ensure they do not take root in our country."

Messages of support were delivered by party leaders Jack Layton of the New Democratic Party and Gilles Duceppe of the Bloc Québécois.

Alan Baker, Israel's ambassador to Canada, cautioned that the memory of the Holocaust must be kept alive in order to prevent a recurrence in the future.

"On behalf of the State of Israel, permit me to express our appreciation and extreme pride that Canada commemorates this on the steps of Parliament, in the presence of the leadership of Canada," said Baker. "May Canada and Israel go from strength to strength. *Am Yisrael Chai!*"

### Jewish War Veterans of Canada, Ottawa Post, is offering four \$1,000 AND one \$500 cash awards/ scholarship to deserving students

The Jewish War Veterans of Canada, Ottawa Post, is pleased to offer two awards/scholarship in the amount of \$1000 each and one in the amount of \$500 to Jewish students who plan to pursue a post-secondary education. Applicants must be living in the National Capital Region, and be between the ages of 16 and 19 years of age on or before the 31st day of May 2008. The awards and scholarship are:

- (1) The Jewish War Veterans of Canada Ottawa Post Student Award (\$1000)
- (2) The Abe Carlofsky Student Scholarship (\$1000)
- (3) The Saul and Edna Goldfarb Award (2 x \$1000)
- (4) The Max and Tessie Zelikovitz Student Award (\$500)

Students may apply for all of the awards, and must indicate this wish. If applying to the Carlofsky Scholarship, the applicant must be related to or sponsored by a Jewish War Veteran.\* Only one award/scholarship may be won by any one applicant. The awards and scholarship will be paid out upon proof of acceptance at a post-secondary institution.

In the letter of application, applicants must provide a copy of academic transcript, evidence of superior qualities of leadership, good citizenship, sportsmanship, and volunteer work, at school, within the Jewish Community, and the community at large.

All applicants should provide a letter stating why they think they are eligible. Enclose any support material you may think relevant, to be received no later than June 30, 2008.

Send submissions to:  
Freda Lithwick

Awards Committee, Ottawa Post Jewish War Veterans of Canada  
100 Isabella Street, Suite 512, Ottawa, ON K1S 1V5

\* Those requiring Jewish War Veteran sponsorship  
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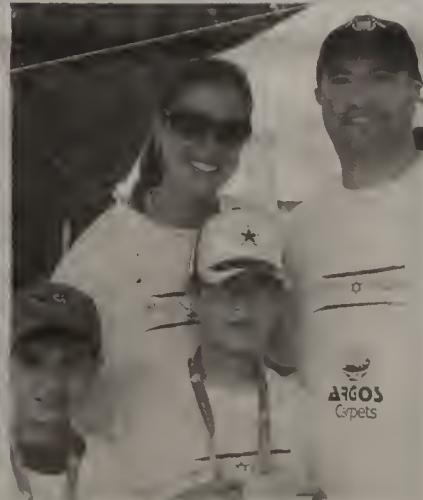
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**PRESENTED BY THE JEWISH FEDERATION OF OTTAWA AND THE SOLOWAY JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTRE**

## Arnie Vered honoured for his exceptional service and leadership

By Cynthia Nyman Engel

In his Vaad Report in the March 1, 2004 edition of the *Ottawa Jewish Bulletin*, then-Vaad president Arnie Vered wrote:

*"Imagine how powerful our community would be if we all challenged ourselves to contribute what little precious time we could for the benefit and growth of our community."*

It is the credo by which he lives.

In recognition of his long-time dedication to the community, Arnie has been named the 2008 recipient of the Gilbert Greenberg Distinguished Service Award. The award is the highest honour the Ottawa Jewish Community bestows on an individual for exceptional service over a period of many years.

The award was created in 1980 and bears the name of the late Gilbert Greenberg, president of the Vaad from 1977 to 1979, who exemplified the qualities of leadership which the award seeks to recognize each year. It will

be presented to Arnie at the annual general meeting of the Jewish Federation of Ottawa on June 11.

Even before Arnie and Liz Vered had their first child, he served as his synagogue's representative on the Hillel Academy board. Three decades and six children later, he has served with distinction in almost every senior position in the Ottawa Jewish Community and in an impressive number in the general community, as well.

"It's always been a pleasure to see what I have participated in, come to fruition," he says. "It makes it all worthwhile." Happily for the beneficiaries of his efforts, in his capable hands, a great deal has come to fruition.

The handwriting was already well-etched onto the wall in 1991 as Arnie was approaching 40. That year, the Ottawa Jewish Community recognized his extraordinary commitment by naming him recipient of the Freiman Family Young Leadership



Arnie Vered

Award. That same year, the Ontario Ministry of Culture and Communications presented him with its Volunteer Service Award.

"The reason I participate is that I bad good examples at home," he says. "Watching

my parents being active in the community made an impression on me. And I've always enjoyed community work because I always meet the nicest people.

"I'm honoured to be chosen as part of a group whose contribution to the community was recognized with the Gilbert Greenberg Award, and honoured to be joining the select few who are the second generation to receive it."

Arnie's parents, Zeev and Sara Vered, were the recipients of the Gilbert Greenberg Distinguished Service Award in 2002.

The depth of Arnie's commitment is awe-inspiring and, like cream, he always rises to the top. He is past president of

the Jewish Community Council of Ottawa/Vaad Ha'ir, past president of the Soloway Jewish Community Centre, past president of the Jewish Community Campus of Ottawa, past president of the Jewish Community Property Management Board, and past president of the Ottawa Talmud Torah Board/Hillel Academy. He is also a past chair of the Ottawa United Jewish Appeal Campaign, past chair of the Ottawa State of Israel Bonds Campaign, and sat as a member of the Machzikei Hadass Synagogue board.

In the general community, Arnie served as treasurer of the board of the Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario (CHEO), and chaired the CHEO Foundation's highly successful capital campaign. He is currently a member of the board of Ashbury College.

"I appreciate that I was able to participate in community affairs at a young age," he says. "And I'm very happy to see that the younger people, the next generation, are coming forward to take their places in this regard."

"The Jewish Community is a wonderful training ground," he says. "By being involved in the Jewish Com-

munity you learn the principles that make it easy to go outside the Jewish Community. And when you do, you find that the Ottawa Jewish Community is held in high esteem and that the expertise you learned through your Jewish communal involvement is highly regarded, and serves you very well."

"When you go outside the community you realize how well we are doing," he adds. "We really are an unbelievable community and we should be very proud of that."

Arnie credits Liz, his "remarkable, understanding wife," and the support of his family, both at home and at work, for enabling to him take up the challenge of making a difference.

Arnie and Liz's six children are Ariel, 24, Danya, 22, Jordana, 20, Alexandra, 18, Michael, 14, and Tori, 12.

This spring the Vered family has much to celebrate. In addition to Arnie winning the Gilbert Greenberg Award, four of the children – Ariel, Danya, Alexandra and Michael – have successfully completed their courses of study and are graduating from their respective schools.



### 74th Annual General Meeting

#### The Chair and President of the Jewish Federation of Ottawa

Invite you to attend the Annual General Meeting of the

Jewish Federation of Ottawa

Wednesday, June 11, 2008

7:00 pm

Social Hall

Joseph and Rose Ages Family Building  
21 Nadolny Sachs Private

Refreshments to follow

#### Community Awards Presentation

Gilbert Greenberg Distinguished Service Award • Arnie Vered  
Freiman Family Young Leadership Award • Stuart Ages  
Shem Tov Community Volunteer Award • Mayer Alvo

#### Two more awards

Two other community awards will be presented at the Federation AGM on Wednesday, June 11.

Mayer Alvo will receive the Shem Tov Community Volunteer Award. His profile is on page 8.

Stuart Ages will receive the Freiman Family Young Leadership Award. See his profile on page 9.

#### What's happening at Congregation Beth Shalom

Wednesday, May 21

Beth Shalom Book Club

Thursday, June 5

Kibitz Club Luncheon

Friday, June 6

Shabbat Dinner

Wednesday, June 18

50th Anniversary Celebrations

Watch for more upcoming events including our Beer Tasting event and Chinese Buffet!

**Everyone is Welcome!**

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## Proud Strong Together: Be part of Walkathon June 1

*Editor's note: JFO Chair Jonathan Freedman has arranged to share his column, on occasion, with the choirs or presidents of the community's major beneficiary agencies or committees so they can provide some insight into their operations.*

If you're like us, we're sure you have memories of Walkathons of years past.

For both of us, the Walkathon was always a major event on the local summer calendar. We can remember years when it seemed the entire Jewish community came out to walk to show their support and solidarity for the Jewish community of Ottawa and for the State of Israel.

Both of us will never forget walking, year after year, with our own families. It was an important ritual for us growing up in the city – an important part of our heritage, a time to reconnect with others and remind ourselves of the importance of community.

We were proud. We were strong. And we joined together as a community.

We call on the community to once again recreate the memories so many of us share of Walkathons past. On June 1, join us to make new memories with your children, grandchildren and friends.

Proud. Strong. Together. That is what the Walkathon is all about.



And there's no better time to join together than this year, 2008, as Israel marks its 60th anniversary and the Soloway Jewish Community Centre (JCC) marks its 10th anniversary as a state-of-the-art facility for education, fitness, cultural and social events. This year's Walkathon is a partnership of the Jewish Federation of Ottawa and the Soloway JCC.

We encourage everyone to come out and walk for the Jewish community and the 29 agencies it supports. Among the agencies that have touched us personally are Tamir, which serves people with developmental disabilities, including Sharon's son Jordan; and Hillel Lodge, a home for the *Greatest Generation* – the seniors of our community – including Sharon's mother-in-law, Doris, and Mark's late grandmother.

Sharon is proud to report that both Jor-

## Federation Report

### Mark Thaw and Sharon Finn Walkathon 2008

dan and Doris will be taking part in the Walkathon.

Take a moment to think about how one or more of the agencies funded by the Federation have been vital to your life.

Perhaps you have a son or daughter attending Hillel Academy or Talmud Torah Afternoon School – education ensures a bright and vibrant Ottawa Jewish community for years to come.

Or perhaps one of the programs funded by Federation, like Taglit-Birthright Israel or March of the Living, helped your child form a vital link with the State of Israel.

The truth is all of us have a link to Federation and the important work it does. So let's join together June 1, to show how much we value this link.

We'd love to see everyone take part on June 1. However, if you can't make it or will not be in town, you can still take

part! For a \$60 donation in honour of Israel's 60th anniversary, you can have someone else do the walking for you! With your donation someone else can wear a shirt that says, "I am walking for ..."

You can also walk in memory of someone – perhaps someone who once walked side-by-side with you in Walkathons of the past – with a shirt that says, "I am walking in memory of ..."

Or you can also walk in honour of a fallen soldier, or one of the Israeli soldiers still being held hostage in Lebanon or Gaza. We can provide you with their names.

Proud. Strong. Together.

Think about how great it would be, and how strong a message it would send, for all of us, young and old, babies, bubs and everyone in between, to walk together, run together, bike together and, most importantly, *be together*, as one community.

We look forward to seeing everyone at the Jewish Community Campus on June 1 for Walkathon. Let's show how *Proud, Strong and Together* we can be.

To find out more about the Walkathon, or to volunteer, contact Sharon Diamond at 613-798-9818, ext. 255 or [sdiamond@jccottawa.com](mailto:sdiamond@jccottawa.com).

## Inability to enjoy others' success is the ultimate human disability

We look back at the 20th century as a time of great achievement, and simultaneously as a time of great devastation. We reached the moon, we eliminated polio, we shortened distances with incredible advances in transportation, etc. And we killed over 100 million people!

This century, the 21st, seems to be going along in the same dichotomous direction with great achievement coupled with great evil. Consider this preposterous situation: we are working our tails off, trying to find cures for so many illnesses, so that people can live longer and better lives. At the same time, other we's are killing people every single day, in so many parts of the world.

One of the areas in which we have excelled is addressing disability. Countries like Canada have introduced significant measures to assure wheelchair access. Motorized means of transportation for those with curtailed mobility have significantly enhanced the plight of the immobile. Computer geniuses have opened up previously closed worlds for those unable to talk. The dream of finding ways to address spinal cord damage is not as far off as was once thought. We are making amazing advances.

Yet there is one disability for which we have not made much progress, and have possibly even regressed. It is in the ultimate human disability – the general inability of humans to really enjoy the success of others and to help them attain it.

Let's be clear. Many great things are hap-



### From the pulpit

Rabbi  
Reuven P. Bulka  
Machzikei Hadas

pening in the field of philanthropy, in the sphere of human kindness, in our endeavours to help others. There are countless pockets of true greatness. But, when we look at the global picture, the world is filled with smoldering conflagrations. There is the distinct possibility that, in the 21st century, more people will be killed than in the 20th.

How is it that we can make so much progress in one arena and so little, if any, in another? With both arenas addressing the core issue of life, that is a critical question which must be confronted by anyone who cares about meaningful survival.

There are no all-embracing answers. But my gut tells me that the core disability to which I referred is a most potent contributor to the problem. People murder because they want what others have, or because they are denied what they think they need. Nations go to war because they cannot accept the reality of other people, be it for reasons of geography, resources, or pure hatred.

We all want to be rich. What would happen if everyone embraced the famous Jewish formula for explaining true wealth? –

Who is truly wealthy?  
The one who is happy with his/her portion.

If this were truly integrated into our *modus operandi*, we would not be dissatisfied with what we have in comparison with others. Instead, because of our own sense of happiness, we would delight in the happiness and prosperity of others. We would have more than peace. We would have harmony.

Nations, in building up other nations, would themselves be uplifted. This, in con-

trast to the mass stupidity we see today of countries, and their irresponsible leaders, dragging their nations down in order to carry out agendas of hatred and destruction.

What stops all this from happening is the ultimate disability – the human disability, of our own making, to be happy within ourselves and therefore to be happy for everyone else. There is no magic technology that will adequately address this disability. We all have the ability to eliminate this disability. All we need is to want for it to happen.

# Ottawa Jewish bulletin

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# Fugitive Pieces: a moving film adaptation of the acclaimed novel

The film version of *Fugitive Pieces*, which opened across Canada earlier this month, is director and screenwriter Jeremy Podeswa's adaptation of the acclaimed novel by Anne Michaels about the life of Jakob Beer, a Polish Jew who survived the Holocaust as a young boy only to be haunted by it through the rest of his life.

As the film opens, we witness seven-year-old Jakob at home in Poland with his parents and 15-year-old sister, Bella, a talented pianist adored by Jakob. From a hiding place in the house, the young boy witnesses Nazi soldiers murder his parents and abduct his sister. Bella's uncertain fate at the hands of the Nazis is one of the things that will continue to affect Jakob.

Jakob flees the house and hides in the forest where he's rescued by Athos Rousos, a Greek archeologist. Athos smuggles Jakob back to his home on Zakynthos, the Greek island that managed, against all odds, to protect the Jews living there during the Nazi occupation of Greece.

Athos raises Jakob as a son and, after the war, moves with him to Canada.

As an adult, Jakob channels his childhood memories into his writing and becomes an acclaimed poet.

His first marriage, to Alex, a woman who doesn't really understand him, fails.



## Acting Editor

Michael Regenstreif

But Jakob eventually finds love and the promise of happiness with Michaela.

As the film ends, Michaela is pregnant; she and Jakob have found happiness and are looking forward to the arrival of their child. It is an ending that leaves audiences happy for Jakob and his wife.

*Fugitive Pieces* convincingly shows how the psychological devastation of living through the darkness of the Holocaust affected Jakob and those around him, at the time, and throughout his life.

It also captures the trauma of other Holocaust survivors, like the couple who are neighbours of Athos and Jakob in Toronto, and whose son, Ben, finds with Jakob, the kind of relationship his father was unable to give to him.

Another aspect of the film that is particularly moving is the portrayal of the righteousness of Athos and the other Greeks of Zakynthos.

In the book, Jakob and Michaela are killed in a tragic accident and do not live

happily ever after. After *Fugitive Pieces* was shown last year at the Toronto International Film Festival, director Podeswa and producer Robert Lantos – both the sons of Holocaust survivors – decided the deaths of Jakob and Michaela left film audiences too devastated and exchanged the tragedy for a happy ending; reportedly to the chagrin of author Michaels.

Despite the changed ending, and that the character of Ben, central to the book, is of lesser importance in the film, *Fugitive Pieces*, set in Poland, Greece and Canada, is a sensitive and moving adaptation of Michaels' novel.

\*\*\*\*\*

The May 5 edition of the *Bulletin* was a special issue that focused on Israel @ 60.

The issue of *Maclean's* magazine dated the same day had a front cover that screamed, "60th ANNIVERSARY: WHY ISRAEL CAN'T SURVIVE."

Turning to page 28 of the magazine, the sensationalistic line from the cover is repeated as the headline of the article. But underneath the title is a qualifying statement: "Sixty years on, the country is facing a choice of two futures: it can be Jewish or democratic – but not both."

Oh, so *Maclean's* is really saying that Israel can survive by choosing to give up either its Jewishness or its democratic principles. That's rather different than what it says on the cover and the headline.

But then, the five-page article by Michael Petrou actually concludes that the choice, of being Jewish, or being democratic, will eventually have to be made if Israel and the Palestinians cannot forge a two-state solution. Again, that's a very different conclusion from what was said in the intro. And the intro, as we've already seen, was very different from the headline and cover.

That Israel and the Palestinians need to find peace via a two-state solution has long been obvious. It has also long been Israel's policy and it's what I've heard, for years, from most Israelis I've talked with. As U.S. Senator Barack Obama has stated, what is needed is for the Palestinian leadership to recognize Israel, to renounce violence and to get serious about negotiating peace and security for the region."

Shame on *Maclean's* for a grossly misleading cover, headline and intro statement that did not reflect the article and fell far short of its usually higher journalistic standards.

# I'm not vegging out, I'm stimulating my brain cells



Alan Echenberg

So here's what I was doing the other evening: I was sitting sprawled out on the living-room couch, slack-jawed and motionless, remote control sitting loosely in one hand, watching television dramas, including one of my current sci-fi faves, *Lost*, the time-bending remote-island-castaways saga.

What? You too?

And then, I spent part of another recent evening sprawled out on the couch, slack-jawed and motionless, video game controller firmly in hand, playing games on my kids' PlayStation after they went to bed. (Oh, by the way, that last bit of info was just between us. Don't tell the kids. Thanks.)

How would you describe what I was doing? Well, some of you would probably say I was vegging out, killing off some brain cells, frittering away my evenings with mindless pursuits when I could have been reading literature, attending the opera or taking a PhD correspondence course.

Well, sorry. You're just plain wrong about that.

In fact, on both those occasions – slack-jawed appearances to the contrary – I was stimulating my brain cells and devoting myself to mind-expanding pursuits.

So there.

Don't take my word for it. After I put

few decades ago watching a comparable show."

Hmmm, some of you are thinking: What about the social and moral outcry that often accompanies the release of violent video games such as *Grand Theft Auto 4* or the growing popularity of adult-themed TV shows like *Lost* and *24*?

Johnson makes no claims for, or against, the cultural benefits of these media products. He says that such concerns are beside the point when contemplating their actual benefits:

"Beneath the violence and the ethnic stereotypes, another trend appears: to keep up with entertainment like *24*, you have to pay attention, make inferences, track shifting social relationships ... the most debased forms of mass diversion – video games and violent television dramas and juvenile sitcoms – turn out to be nutritional after all."

So there. Again.

Johnson's thesis hit home recently when I celebrated a milestone birthday and received some nostalgic gifts from a couple of friends: A DVD collection of the first two seasons of the celebrated 1970s sit-com, *M\*A\*S\*H*, and a handheld Mattel Football LED video game, also from the late-'70s.

As a kid, I watched *M\*A\*S\*H* religiously, but I hadn't seen an episode in

years. When I watched a bit of the DVD, it was as funny and biting as ever. But I was struck by the simplicity of the plots and character relationships, as compared to contemporary shows like *Lost* or *Six Feet Under*, where you actually have to buy the DVDs and watch them over and over again to pick up on all of the nuances.

Mattel's football game was cutting edge in my childhood and, as an older geezer, it was fun to reacquaint myself with it. But, in the end, it's about moving a bunch of little dots around a screen. Some of the video games my kids play require an almost Talmudic ability to make connections between disparate elements and contain story structures that are at least as complex as some of the books they read.

The bigger backdrop to all of this is, of course, the Internet, which has allowed games to be played – and television shows and other popular culture to be discussed and analyzed – on a bigger, more collective scale, and even to be put to use for more serious purposes, such as modelling collaborative solutions to real world problems.

So, next time you come over and I'm sitting slacked-jawed on the couch, cut me a little slack. I'm just busy growing my brain.

Alan Echenberg is *TVOntario's* Parliamentary bureau chief.

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Agudath Israel Synagogue  
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University of Ottawa

## **Yiddish Cultural Events**

Presented by the University of Ottawa's 2008 Intensive Yiddish Program  
Dept. Modern Languages and Literatures, Vered Jewish Canadian Studies Program  
All events are open to the public and free of charge. No knowledge of Yiddish is required.

### **Film Series (English subtitles)**

Tuesday afternoons 2 p.m., University of Ottawa, Lamoureux Hall, Room 219  
• May 20: American Matchmaker/Amerikaner Shadkhn (1940)  
• May 27: The Singing Blacksmith/Yankl Der Schmid (1938)  
• June 3: New Yiddish films

### **Lectures and performances**

- Sunday, May 25 10:30 a.m., Soloway JCC, 21 Nadolny Sachs Private Brunch Lecture: Prof. Anya Shternshis (University of Toronto), "White Piano from the Real Shtetl: Nostalgia and Yiddish culture in the Post-Soviet Space"
- Wednesday, June 4 7 p.m., Hillel House, 284 Laurier Yiddish salon featuring Janie Respitz singing her favourite Yiddish songs
- Friday, June 13 10 p.m., University of Ottawa, Simard Hall, Room 125, Yiddish Program graduation and student performance

For more information: Prof. Rebecca Margolis: rmargoli@uOttawa.ca; tel: 613-562-5800 x2955 or visit [www.canada.uOttawa.ca/en/vered.htm](http://www.canada.uOttawa.ca/en/vered.htm)



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**Mayer Alvo**

commitment.

Mayer Alvo will receive this year's Shem Tov Community Volunteer Award – Presented by the Ottawa Citizen. The award recognizes an outstanding volunteer who has contributed to the enrichment of Jewish life in Ottawa over many years and will be presented at the annual general meeting of the Jewish Federation of Ottawa on June 11.

Mayer never dreamt what

lay in store for him the night he uttered two prophetic words, "I'll help," at a board meeting of Agudath Israel Synagogue.

It was 1993 and Israel Shinder, longtime volunteer overseer of the Jewish Community Cemeteries, was asking for volunteers.

"I was the only responder and the rest is history," Mayer chuckles.

What Mayer figured would involve a couple of hours a week turned into a full-time, 15-years-and-counting,

"Is had done a great job for many, many years," he says. "I figured he would stay on forever. But, after Shinder resigned in 1995, Mayer recalls looking around to see who was in charge.

"It was me. I became the 'reluctant chair.'"

Mayer, now marking his Bar Mitzvah year as Cemetery Committee chair, is a dedicated volunteer who has wrought significant change.

When Mayer assumed the chair there was a rapidly deteriorating, seemingly insurmountable situation. There was a formal constitution for the new Osgoode Cemetery, but none for the Bank Street Cemetery. While the synagogues were paying for the complete maintenance of both cemeteries, the arrangement was taking a toll on those with dwindling memberships. Both cemeteries were constantly borrowing money to meet their cemetery obligations, including planting flowers for those who had purchased perpetual flower care.

The matter came to a head when Beth Shalom, the largest cemetery landholder, gave notice that it could no longer pay its bills. To add insult to injury, the synagogues were not united in their views on how to run the cemeteries, which were in

\$400,000. Our major source of income is from the sale of graveside flowers. Twenty-five percent of each sale goes into the fund, and the purchaser gets a tax receipt for 25 per cent."

Mayer attributes his dedication to his strong sense of community. The former chair of the University of Ottawa Mathematics Department had to do a lot of time-juggling to accomplish his goals.

"I'm grateful for the many good people I met along the way," he says. "Roger Greenberg and Joel Taller are spearheading the new governance which has been agreed upon by all of the synagogues. Sidney Cwinn has added so much to the Osgoode cemetery. Stan Goldberg looked after lawn care. Ron Fainstein was very helpful."

Mayer also personally prepared a manual on the ins and outs of running the Cemetery Committee. "I did it for myself, but it will serve as a guide for whoever follows me."

Mayer and Helen Alvo have two children – Anita, married to Brent Almstedt, and Dan, married to Jennifer Waxman – and three grandchildren.

"Mayer is really a one-man show," says Helen. "When people ask: 'Where is your husband?' My stock answer is 'at the cemetery!'"

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## In Appreciation

Mother's day is unbearable this year without you. Only our memories will sustain us now, as well as all the warm wishes, prayers and contributions made in your honour.

Thank you family and friends we are forever grateful.

Max Lobel, Norma and Shirley

## Hillel Academy Used Book Sale

1000s of used books – all types for all ages

When: June 1, 2008 (Walkathon day)  
11:00 am to 4:00 pm

Where: Hillel Academy  
31 Nadolny Sachs Private



"The Hillel Academy PTA Used Book Sale is genius. Wish I had thought of it."

# Picnics, planes and partying as Israel marks 60th anniversary

By Dina Kraft

TEL AVIV (JTA) – Air force jets streaked across the country's coastline as sailboats bobbed in the sea below.

Spectators packed the shores, climbing on rooftops for a better view of the air show as Israelis came out on Yom Ha'Atzmaut to celebrate 60 years of statehood.

The nation's mood shifted from mourning to celebration the night before as Yom Hazikaron gave way to Yom Ha'Atzmaut. City squares were filled with revelers who came to hear concerts and watch fireworks and sound and light shows.

Partygoers danced until the wee hours of the morning at clubs and house parties, and even in the streets. Families crowded parks, filling the air with dense clouds of barbecue smoke.

Israeli flags flapped in the wind from apartment balconies and car windows, and children chased each other with bottles of Silly String.

The festivities were marred on the Tel Aviv beach when a paratrooper in the air show was blown off course by heavy winds and landed on the shore, injuring him and nine others. The paratrooper and one spectator were taken to the hospital in serious condition, Israeli media reported.

Kicking off Israel's Yom Ha'Atzmaut events, Knesset Speaker Dalia Itzik tried to strike an upbeat note, despite the rather grim political mood in the country.

"The State of Israel is an unusual success story, a wonder by any historical standard," Itzik said.

"We had no miracles. We built this splendid achievement with our own hands."

The defence establishment played a key role in official events for the day.

In Haifa, the navy exhibited its ships and submarines, and its underwater commando held a demonstration.

Along the northern border, an air force base was open to the public, as was the country's intelligence training school near Tel Aviv.

The school exhibited espionage equipment and offered guided tours of tunnels modeled after those in the Gaza Strip that are used for smuggling weapons across the border from Egypt. Also on display was a model of a Hezbollah base used in Lebanon.

Meanwhile, in the real security world, a closure on the West Bank was imposed and the police were put on high alert in light of warnings of terror attacks.

Walking among the crowds in Tel Aviv, Yaniv Bashan took in the meaning of the day.

"It's a nostalgic time, people are looking back at what was," said Bashan, a 29-year-old engineer. "There are lots of questions about the future but it's clear the situation is much better now than it was 60

years ago."

Bulletin freelancer Li-ana Shlien was in Israel for

Yom Ha'Atzmaut. Watch for her report in the June 16 edition of the Bulletin.

## Mazal Tov!

### Engaged!

Jacob and Irit Guttman are delighted to announce the engagement of their daughter Orlee to Jonathan Weisman, son of Simon and Rachel Weisman of Toronto. A wedding is planned for the summer of 2009.

For more information on how to submit your announcement, contact Rhoda Saslove-Miller 798-4696, ext. 256 [rsaslovemiller@ottawajewishbulletin.com](mailto:rsaslovemiller@ottawajewishbulletin.com)

The Sixth Annual Passover Lunch  
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# Yom Hazikaron marked with solemn ceremony

By Michael Regenstreif

On the day before Yom Ha'Atzmaut, and its joyous celebrations marking the founding of the State of Israel 60 years ago, Israelis, and Jewish communities around the world, paused on Yom Hazikaron - Israel's national memorial day - to

remember the 22,437 soldiers who have died in defence of Israel over the past six decades. Also memorialized were the civilian victims of terrorism.

Ottawa's Yom Hazikaron ceremony took place at the Soloway Jewish Community Centre (JCC) and was a

solemn occasion marked by prayer, quiet songs and reflection.

"Yom Hazikaron is a difficult day for all of us," said Israeli Ambassador Alan Baker. "We all personally know the price [in lives lost] that has been paid."

The ambassador contin-

## Remembering Benny Boguslovsky on Yom Hazikaron

By Barbara Greenberg

I was very touched by the Yom Hazikaron ceremony on Tuesday, May 6, and felt honoured to light a memorial candle on behalf of my uncle, Benny Boguslovsky, a member of the Lamed Hey, the 35 Palmach soldiers who died bringing aid to the besieged Gush Etzion in January 1948.

Benny was born in Ottawa in 1922. While in high school, he became a passionate Zionist and joined the Shomer Hatzair youth group, traveling frequently to Montreal to attend meetings.

At the age of 20, Benny felt he had to do more and decided to go to Palestine. Travelling there was much more difficult than it is today. He joined the British Merchant Navy and was able to get as far as Egypt with them.

In Egypt, Benny left his ship, determined to make his way to Palestine. Meeting some Jewish soldiers in the British army, he convinced them of his passion for Eretz

Israel by showing them the Hebrew song book from Shomer Hatzair. Although he had very few personal effects with him, he felt it was important to carry his song book. Moved by his determination, the soldiers helped him slip into Palestine.

After arriving in Palestine, Benny joined the Palmach and served with Aiyah Bet, whose mission was to assist the unauthorized migration of Jews into British Mandate Palestine.

Benny settled in Kibbutz Shaar Hagolan, married, and had a child.

During the fighting that followed the United Nations vote to partition Palestine, Benny and 34 others were asked to assist in the rescue of Gush Etzion by bringing much needed provisions to them. The Gush consisted of a group of kibbutzim near Hebron, surrounded by Arab villages. It would be an arduous and dangerous mission.

They would have to make a circuitous route to the Gush

in order to avoid the villages. The mission would take all night, and it would have to be completed under the cover of darkness.

The group was not ready to start the mission until late into the night. It was suggested they wait until the next day so that they would have the full night to complete their mission. They chose not to delay so that the kibbutzim would not be left unprotected for even one more day.

Daylight broke before the group completed its mission. Spotted by an Arab villager who revealed their position, they were quickly surrounded by hundreds of Arabs. They were outnumbered, but fought valiantly to the last man. When their ammunition was spent, they resorted to throwing stones at their attackers.

Benny's group became known as the Lamed Hey, the Hebrew letters for the number 35. The heroism of the Lamed Hey soldiers has been honoured by the State of Israel. Benny and his comrades are buried in a special section in the military cemetery on Mount Herzl.

I felt the *kesher*, the connection, to Benny and the Lamed Hey when I visited the cemetery with members of an Ottawa UJA mission to Israel. We laid flowers on the graves of the Lamed Hey, in tribute to their heroism. We also visited a monument to their memory erected near the Gush.

We should be proud of Benny Boguslovsky, an Ottawa boy, and his selfless sacrifice for Israel.

ued by talking about some of the losses that have affected him personally. The half-brother of his wife, Dalia, was killed while serving in the Israel Defense Forces (IDF) in the 1950s. The son of his cousin was also lost while serving in the IDF. And he saw three soldiers in his own artillery unit killed during the Yom Kippur War of 1973; one of them, a military cantor who was sent to the unit to help them daven on the High Holiday.

"Those faces accompany me every day," said Baker.

Jonathan Freedman, chair of the Jewish Federation of Ottawa, recalled how moved he was, while serving in the Israeli army and undergoing officer's training in 1980, when everything stopped on Yom Hazikaron to remember the soldiers lost while defending Israel.

Freedman also noted that there are several Ottawans now serving in the IDF and that there also were commu-

nity members visiting Israel and sharing in the country's pain during Yom Hazikaron.

The program, conducted by students of Yitzhak Rabin High School, also included performances by the school's band and by the Soloway JCC Shira Ottawa Choir, and a short film about Major Roi Klein who was killed during the Second Lebanon War when he jumped on a grenade thus saving the lives of the other soldiers in his unit.

## Notice of Annual General Meeting



The Jewish Federation of Ottawa will hold its 74th Annual General Meeting on Wednesday, June 11, 2008 at 7:00 pm in the Social Hall of the Joseph and Rose Ages Family Building. The entire Jewish community is invited to attend.

Section 17.1B of the by-laws state that "At least thirty (30) days before the annual general meeting, the board of directors shall send the Nominating Committee report to each Full Member and invite each Full Member to provide the President and Chief Executive Officer, at least fourteen (14) days before the annual meeting, the name of any additional candidate which he/she wishes to nominate, together with a letter of support from five (5) other Full Members of the Corporation and a statement by the candidate of interest and qualifications."

The following individuals were elected to serve a term of two (2) years as members of the Board of Directors of the Jewish Federation of Ottawa in June 2007:

Jonathan Freedman	Chair
Donna Dolansky	Vice-Chair
Kathy Kovacs	
Robert Greenberg	

In addition, the following individuals were appointed by the Chair to serve as members at large to June 2009:

Debbie Weiss  
Solly Patrontasch

It is recommended that the number of Elected Directors be increased to eight (8).

In accordance with Section 6 of Bylaw 1

of the Jewish Federation of Ottawa, "the board of directors may by Resolution, and subject to the approval of the Full Members increase or decrease the number of Elected Directors on the board, provided that there shall always be a minimum of seven (7) Elected Directors."

The Board of Directors proposes that the following individuals be elected as directors of the Corporation for a term of two (2) years ending in June 2010:

Allan Moscovitch  
Jeff Polowin  
Ian Sherman  
Bonnie Merovitz

Ex-officio members of the Board of Directors are:

Ron Prehogan	Immediate Past Chair
Neil Zaret	Chair of Jewish Community Campus
Mitchell Bellman	President and CEO

The Full Members of the Jewish Federation of Ottawa include one representative of each funded agency; each of the Pulpit Rabbis; a representative of each community synagogue; a representative of every local Jewish community organization that is not a funded agency; and the Chair of the Ottawa Jewish Community Foundation.

### Yom HaShoah at Hillel Academy



Yom HaShoah was marked at Hillel Academy with a candle lighting ceremony and a virtual Holocaust Museum assembled by Grade 8 students.

(OJB photo: Michael Regenstreif)

We should be proud of Benny Boguslovsky, an Ottawa boy, and his selfless sacrifice for Israel.

Please address any questions to Mitchell Bellman at 613-798-4696, ext 224 or at [mbellman@jewishottawa.com](mailto:mbellman@jewishottawa.com)



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On behalf of the residents and their families, we extend sincere appreciation to the following individuals and families who made card donations to the Hillel Lodge Long-Term Care Foundation between April 15 and 30, 2008 inclusive.

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By making a contribution of \$1,000 or more, you can create a permanent remembrance for a loved one, honour a family member, declare what the Lodge has meant to you and/or support a cause that you believe in.

A Hillel Lodge Honour Fund is a permanent pool of capital that earns interest or income each year. This income then supports the priorities designated by you, the donor.

#### Bill and Leona Adler Memorial Fund

##### In Honour of:

Sarah Beutel and Steve Morgan Thank you for a very rewarding Seder by Daniel, Benjamin, Jordan and David

Flo and Joel Morgan Thank you for a very rewarding Seder by Daniel, Benjamin, Jordan and David

Alice and Louis Retik Mazal Tov and our very best wishes on the new additions to your family by Elayne Adler and Farley, Jordan and Benjamin Stenzler

#### Fred and Esther Ballon Family Fund

##### In Honour of:

Dorothy and Maurie Karp Love and best wishes for a sweet Pesach by Esther and Fred Ballon

Norma and Phil Lazear Love and best wishes for a sweet Pesach by Esther and Fred Ballon

#### Jack and Betty Ballon Family Fund

##### In Memory of:

Sheila Blackstien by Joyce and Milton Kimmel

#### Friedberg and Dale Families Fund

##### In Honour of:

Jonathon Dale Mazal Tov on your graduation by the Avery Family

R'fuah Shlema:

Rona Viner by Elaine Friedberg and Bob Dale

#### Nell Gluck Memorial Fund

##### In Memory of:

Rose Flesher by Manny Gluck and Cheryle Hothersall

##### In Honour of:

Julia Gluck Wishing you all the best for a very happy birthday by Cheryle and Manny

#### Edith Goldschmidt-Oko Memorial Fund

##### In memory of:

David Oko by Belle Gitterman

#### David, Harvey and Victor Kardish Family Fund

##### In Honour of:

Margo and David Kardish Mazal Tov on your new homes in both Ottawa and Florida. May you have lots of good health and nachas in both by Carolyn and Sid Katz

#### Dorothy and Maurie Karp Endowment Fund

##### In Memory of:

Freida Lobel by Dorothy and Maurie Karp

#### Lillian and Morris Kimmel Family Fund

##### In Honour of:

Debi and David Shore Wishing you a very happy and healthy Passover by Morris Kimmel and family

#### Bill and Phyllis Leith Family Endowment Fund

##### In Memory of:

Ida Mooney by Arlene and Seymour Isenberg

#### Levenson-Polowin Feeding Fund

##### In Honour of:

Abe Feinstein With our best wishes by Heidi and Steve Polowin

Heidi and Steve Polowin Congratulations on the engagement of your daughter Jordanna to Ari by Sally Taller; and Beverly and Abe Feinstein

#### Pencer Family Fund

##### In Memory of:

Beloved Father of Ruth Coodin by Marcia and Irwin Pencer and Family

Esther Thrift by Marcia and Irwin Pencer and Family

Ben Tissenbaum by Marcia and Irwin Pencer and Family

#### Schachter-Ingber Family Fund

##### In Honour of:

Brian Schachter We appreciate how far you have travelled and know that the best journeys are yet to come. We wish you good health and that you will always wrap yourself in happiness. With love always by Rachel, Howard, Davida and Josh Schachter

Lenore Schachter Happy 75th birthday! We wish you many more years of continued good health and pleasure in what life offers. With all our love by Rachel, Howard, Davida and Josh Schachter

#### Stephen and Debra Schneiderman Family Fund

##### In Memory of:

Ruth Gold by Debra, Stephen, Stacey and Jordan Schneiderman

##### In Honour of:

Bunnie Cogan Mazal Tov on the upcoming marriage of your granddaughter Julia to Rory. We look forward to celebrating with you by Debra and Stephen Schneiderman

Leah and Issie Scarowsky Mazal Tov on the birth of your granddaughter by Debra and Stephen Schneiderman

R'fuah Shlema:

Louis Weiner by Debra and Stephen Schneiderman

#### Sarah and Arnie Swedler Family Fund

##### In Honour of:

Sylvia Freeman Wishing you all the best for a very happy special birthday by Sarah and Arnie Swedler

Marilyn and William Newman Wishing you a very happy and healthy

Passover by Sarah and Arnie Swedler

Barbara and David Slipacoff Mazal Tov on the birth of your grandson, Spencer by Sarah and Arnie Swedler

R'fuah Shlema:

Stuart McCarthy by Sarah and Arnie Swedler

#### Ritual Program

The Foundation would like to thank Elizabeth Lendel for a very generous contribution to the Kiddush Fund

\*\*\*\*\*

#### IN MEMORY OF:

Beloved mother of Brenda Bertazzo by the Residents, Board and Staff of Hillel Lodge

Max Beer by Carolyn Weiss

Joan Langner by Carolyn Kobernick; and the Constitutional and Administrative Law Section of the Department of Justice.

Herman Stingrob by Rachel and Gerry Pernica

#### IN HONOUR OF:

Jill and Allan Bellack Mazal Tov on Neil's successful completion of his PhD by Ingrid and Gerry Levitz

Sylvia Freeman Mazal Tov on your 85th birthday by Rhonda, Danny, Samuel, Zachary and Shelby Levine

Vera Gara Wishing you a very happy special birthday by Bela Gelman

Sue and Steve Rothman Best wishes on the birth of your grandson by Rose and Kevin Kardash

Ricki and Marty Saslove Wishing you a very happy and healthy Passover by Ingrid and Gerry Levitz

Leah and Issie Scarowsky Mazal Tov on the birth of your granddaughter by the Residents, Board and Staff of Hillel Lodge

Rosalie Shore Many good wishes on your 90th birthday with love by Edith and Gordie Shore

#### R'FUAH SHLEMA:

Marty Saslove by Sylvia Monson

Louis Weiner by the Residents, Board and Staff of Hillel Lodge.



**THE LODGE EXPRESSES ITS SINCERE APPRECIATION FOR YOUR KIND SUPPORT  
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#### GIVING IS RECEIVING – ATTRACTIVE CARDS AVAILABLE FOR ALL OCCASIONS

Here's a good opportunity to recognize an event or convey the appropriate sentiment to someone important to you and at the same time support the Lodge. Card orders may be given to Debra or Rhonda at 728-3900, extension 111, 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Monday to Thursday, 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Friday. You may also e-mail your orders to donations@hillel-ltc.com. E-mail orders must include name, address, postal code, and any message to person receiving the card; and, amount of donation, name, address and postal code of the person making the donation. Cards may be paid for by Visa, Mastercard, American Express, Cheque or Cash. Contributions are tax deductible.

## Huge crowd celebrates Yom Ha'Atzmaut 60

Canada's capital celebrated Israel's 60th Yom Ha'Atzmaut May 8 as more than 2,000 people, from babies to great-grandparents, filled the Ottawa Civic Centre for a huge

Israeli street festival featuring music, dancing, food, booths, exhibits and activities for all ages.

(OJB photos: Michael Regenstreif)



Gilat Rapaport and her InJoy Orchestra lead the crowd in Israeli songs and dances.



Ron Soreanu, #18 (Chai) on Israel's National Hockey Team, signs cards.



The delightful Hillel Academy Choir sings Israeli songs.



Ambassador Alan Baker leads the singing of "Happy Birthday" to Israel.

Event chair Penny Toronto is congratulated by David Spring, Soloway JCC chair.



Making wishes at the Israeli fountain.



The balloon man is a popular draw with the kids.

*Beth Shalom celebrates 50 years, June 18*

## Beth Shalom in this decade: A greater role for women

By Paula Smith

for Beth Shalom Congregation

After some tumultuous years and heartfelt discussions at board meetings about a future direction for the shul, it was decided, in April 2003, to permit mixed seating in the main sanctuary during services.

The *Beth Hamidrash*, the smaller sanctuary, where weekday services are held, remained strictly Orthodox with seating for men and women separated by a *mechitzah*.

The move to modernize services in the main sanctuary saw further changes beyond the seating. The liturgy remained as it always was, but women were now permitted to recite the Haftorah, to open and close the Ark, and are now frequently asked to read some of the prayers – for the government, and for the State of Israel – from the rabbi's podium.

The changes maintained the tra-



**Jessica Cantor celebrates one of the first Bat Mitzvahs at Beth Shalom following changes that allowed for greater participation by women in services.**

ditional nature of the services while allowing women to take part more fully in them. The Congregation particularly enjoys these changes

Another innovation has been to

allow girls to celebrate individual Bat Mitzvahs just as boys celebrate individual Bar Mitzvahs.

Ian Sherman, president of Beth Shalom, explained the challenges that were encountered when instituting these changes. Sherman noted that, as the Jewish Community Campus developed in the west end, and Hillel Academy and Talmud Torah both moved to the campus, Beth Shalom lost some of its identity, having always been an integral part of the community's Hebrew educational program, particularly in the Bar Mitzvah lessons that generations of boys studied under Jacob Gordon.

"The melodies that we learned, the melodies of the shul, are the melodies of our community. By modernizing some things, while retaining the romantic beauty of the traditional Orthodox service, Beth Shalom has managed to have the

best of all worlds," said Sherman.

Cantor Daniel Benlolo agreed with those sentiments. Shira Benlolo – daughter of the cantor and his wife, Muriel – celebrated her Bat Mitzvah in April with a meaningful, fun-filled weekend of prayer and festivities. Shabbat services in the synagogue were spirited with friends and family all participating in the simcha.

Cantor Benlolo enthusiastically explained that the younger generation feels very welcome in shul, feels a part of the Beth Shalom family, and that this new generation is the future of the congregation.

Beth Shalom Synagogue will celebrate its 50th Anniversary with a Gala evening on June 18. The Congregation is confident that there is much to celebrate with a growing membership signalling a thriving future for the city's downtown shul.

## Beth Shalom to honour Issie Rose

By Tom Gussman  
for Beth Shalom  
Congregation

Isidore Rose is a fixture at Congregation Beth Shalom. Issie, as we know him, has been preparing breakfast for the daily minyan and raising money for special festivals and other celebrations for about 35 years.

During these many years, Issie has been up by 4:30 am and gone shopping at Rideau Bakery for a variety of fresh buns, pecan rolls and sundry other treats. He's had fresh steaming coffee and jugs of

orange juice on the table well before the first *minyanaires* arrive at about 7:00 for the weekday morning services that usually start at 7:30.

Issie – with the assistance of Murray Zloten over the past few years – prepares a breakfast table featuring herring, sardines, hard-boiled eggs, sliced tomatoes, onions, cottage cheese, cream cheese, and, for special occasions, lox. "Tommy, you have *Yahrzeit* for your father next Thursday. Shall I pick up some lox?"

Visitors from all over

North America, and even further away, drop in to daven at Beth Shalom when they're in Ottawa and, invariably, it's been memories of the breakfast and camaraderie that have brought them back.

I was in Vancouver when someone asked me if Issie Rose was still making breakfast at the shul in Ottawa. I told him that the shul was Beth Shalom. He remembered Issie, but not the name of the synagogue!

Issie Rose has made coming to Shacharit services special at Beth

Shalom. Regular attendees, those who've come specifically to say *Kaddish*, and those who've just dropped in on occasion, all of have felt the warmth and appreciated the hospitality and devotion of Issie Rose. He's made everyone feel at home at Beth Shalom.

When Beth Shalom celebrates our first 50 years with a Gala evening on Wednesday, June 18, Issie will be honoured for his dedication, service and breakfasts.

This will be a special evening for the entire Jewish community, many of whom



**Issie Rose with his late wife, Rossie, at Beth Shalom.**

have family roots in Congregation Beth Shalom.

It will be an opportunity for Issie's many friends in

the community to pay tribute to Mr. Beth Shalom and enjoy yet another fabulous nosh.

## CHW Ottawa tea honours Edna Goldfarb and Israel's 60th

By Myra McFarlane  
for CHW Ottawa

We have all heard the proverb that "it takes a village to raise a child."

In the case of the Canadian Hadassah-WIZO (CHW) Ottawa chapters of Amit, Ina McCarthy and Mollie Betcherman, and the 67 children of the Anne Eisenstat Daycare Centre in Acco, Israel, just outside Haifa, it is a global village.

CHW Ottawa's annual tea will be held June 1, this year honouring the late Edna Goldfarb for her life-long love of Israel, for her love of children and for her many years of passionate service in the Hadassah-WIZO movement, and the State of

Israel itself on the occasion of its 60th anniversary.

Among her other achievements, Goldfarb is remembered for the annual Games Day at her country home, for making jams for the Bazaar, pitching in for Designer Duds and her devotion to Youth Aliyah. Goldfarb's passion for Hadassah-WIZO was reflected in her leadership roles, particularly her presidency of the Ottawa Council President from 1973 to 1975.

The Anne Eisenstat Daycare Centre provides services to 67 children between the ages of four months and four years, as well as their families. Clients include sev-

eral kids with special needs, as well as children just learning Hebrew, and several families who might not otherwise be able to afford quality day care.

Services include nutritious meals, counselling, speech therapy and other child-centred educational programming. Like day care centres everywhere, there is never enough funding.

Of immediate need at the centre is air conditioning for the kitchen, which is terribly hot in the summer. There are also structural problems with the building and grounds. The sand needs to be replaced with foam for the health and safety of the children – as



**Edna Goldfarb**

required by Israeli government regulations – and some unsafe playground equipment needs to be replaced.

You can be part of the village helping to raise the children of the Anne Eisenstat Daycare Centre by attending the tea, making a donation and browsing the lovely crafts for sale.

The tea is on Sunday, June 1, 2:00 pm, at the home of Gina Grant, 3 Southern Hills Court, Nepean. For information, or to RSVP, call Sophie Frenkel at 613-726-1538. If you need transportation, call Ellie Greenberg at 613-723-8577.

You can also call Sophie Frenkel if you can't go to the tea and would like to make a donation to help the children of the Anne Eisenstat Daycare Centre.

## Community support makes it easier to deal with disease

By Barry Fishman,  
editor emeritus

You very seldom hear the word blessed when describing Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS).

And why would you?

After all, ALS is a rapidly progressive and fatal neuromuscular disease that leads to paralysis of the voluntary muscles. Since breathing is controlled by the voluntary chest muscle, death usually occurs when that muscle is no longer able to help the lungs achieve oxygenation. There is no cure for ALS. For 80 per cent of those with ALS, death occurs within two to five years of being diagnosed.

A pretty grim statistic.

And yet, despite the challenges of living with ALS, I do, indeed, feel blessed.

I have my wife, family, friends, co-workers, doctors and members of the Ottawa Jewish community to thank for that.

When it was made public that I was suffering from ALS, the response was immediate and overwhelm-



Barry and friends participate in the 2007 Walk for ALS.

ing. At work, my boss, Mitchell Bellman, quickly arranged for special technology that would allow me to work at home when necessary. I was also able to hire

Michael Regenstreif as assistant editor and, over the year, a lot of meetings with the staff of the *Bulletin* took place at my home.

Although I no longer work at the *Bulletin*, I am still encouraged to advise, lend a hand and write stories whenever I am up to it. I even have a fancy title – editor emeritus.

On Mitzvah Day, Federation volunteers supported the ALS Society by decorating lap blankets for those suffering from the disease and by providing information on ALS.

My family has been terrific. They phone or visit at least once a week, relatives come to Ottawa regularly to help out, and family members cook for us and help with the grocery shopping.

Throughout it all, my main caregiver, my wife Phyllis, remains upbeat despite the extra emotional

and physical toll my disease has put on her. She is insistent that I fight this disease to the best of my ability.

My team of doctors – including Gary Viner, a member of the local Jewish community – they, too, refuse to give up and are helping as I explore different alternatives.

What has been especially heartening, though, is the reaction of the community. People have phoned, written and e-mailed offering to help in any way they could. Many have made donations to the ALS Society and other worthy causes in my name. People who knew me only through my work at the *Bulletin* called to offer assistance.

Although I always suspected it, I have learned over the past number of months how warm and caring this community really is. It is also a lot easier to remain positive when you have such a community supporting you.

So, yes, I certainly wish I didn't have ALS, but I do feel blessed with the amount of

good wishes and support I have received.

Unfortunately, not everyone is in the same situation I am.

ALS is a devastating disease that affects families emotionally, physically and financially. Marian Williams, ALS Society regional manager for Eastern Ontario, calls it the "million dollar disease."

Although the government and the Ontario ALS Society, through their *lending cupboard*, do cover some of the costs, families are still left with a heavy financial burden.

Over a five-year period, hundreds of thousands of dollars can be spent on everything from mobility aids, special medical equipment, communication devices, home and vehicle modification, drug therapy and alternative medicine, and for personal care workers that are needed almost 24/7 in the later stages of ALS.

"Personal care costs over a four- to five-year period can be 10 times the cost of

equipment," Williams says.

The Ontario ALS Society is dedicated both to finding a cure for ALS and to supporting the families of ALS patients through its support services and lending equipment program. The society's signature fundraising event, *Walk for ALS*, is held in 25 communities across Ontario.

Last year, a number of co-workers, relatives and friends joined me for the walk. This year, the Ottawa walk takes place June 7 at Lansdowne Park. Registration is at 1:00 pm and the walk begins at 2:00. Please feel free to join us.

If you wish to donate, please visit [www.walkforals.ca](http://www.walkforals.ca), click on 'Make a Pledge' and enter my name. Or drop off your contribution for the ALS Society of Ontario at the *Bulletin* office, located in the Soloway JCC, 21 Nadolny Sacha Private, Ottawa K2A 1R9.

With your help, we can come closer to finding a cure for ALS and, meanwhile, make those living with this disease more comfortable.

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## Hillel Academy public speaking competitions held April 30

Hillel Academy held the finals of its public speaking contests April 30. The finalists spoke to assemblies of fellow students, teachers and parents who heard a variety of impressive presentations.

In the morning competition for students from Grades 5 and 6, the gold medal was won by Grade 6 student Racheli Mandelker and the silver by Dayna Zunder, also of Grade 6. Jacob Melamed of Grade 5 and Allec Seller of Grade 6 tied for the bronze medal.

The afternoon competition for Grades 7 and 8 saw Jordan Rosenbloom of Grade 8 capture the gold medal, Cody Miller of Grade 7 take the silver with bronze going to Aaron Naur of Grade 7.



Grades 5 and 6 public speaking medal winners: (left to right) bronze co-medalist Allec Seller, gold medalist Racheli Mandelker, silver medalist Dayna Zunder, bronze co-medalist Jacob Melamed.



Grades 7 and 8 public speaking medal winners: (left to right) bronze medalist Aaron Naur, silver medalist Cody Miller, gold medalist Jordan Rosenbloom.

(OJB photos: Michael Regenstreif)

### Diana Cohen Reis to receive George Joseph Cooper Scholarship

By Michael Regenstreif

Diana Cohen Reis will receive the George Joseph Cooper Scholarship from the Ottawa Jewish Community Foundation. The award, valued at \$15,704, is given to a person between 18 and 30 "who has displayed leadership qualities, academic excellence, and an interest in the Jewish community."

Reis, 24, is a doctoral candidate at the University of Ottawa working with both the Department of Sociology and the Vered Jewish Canadian Studies Program. Her dissertation will examine Jewish immigration in Ottawa. Reis's 2007 MA thesis at uOttawa examined immigration of Jews from France to Montreal.

Reis was born in France, the daughter of Portuguese Jews then living there, and spent parts of her childhood in both France and Canada. She later returned to France for studies, spending two years at l'Université Paris Sorbonne.

While studying in Paris, Reis says she was exposed to the anti-Semitism that has driven many French Jews to leave the country in recent years.

"The synagogue and Jewish day school I attended as a child were both burned to the ground by Molotov cocktails," and "I was badly attacked in an attempted rape

because I was wearing a Star of David," she wrote in her application for the scholarship.

In an interview with the Bulletin, Reis attributed that anti-Semitism in France to the disaffection of North African youths who have not integrated well into French society.

"Jews who fled extremism in North African countries are now facing it again," she said.

Reis cited the case of Ilan Halimi, a young French Jewish man who was kidnapped, tortured and murdered in 2006, saying "families are scared for their children."

Compared to France, where "the rabbi told us not to dress Orthodox," Reis says that she "feels at home as a Jew living in Ottawa."

In Ottawa, Reis is active in B'nai Brith Canada, the Young Adult Division of the Jewish Federation of Ottawa, the Maimonides Leadership Program and JSA-Hillel.

Reis will receive the scholarship at the annual general meeting of the Ottawa Jewish Community Foundation on Wednesday, June 4, 8:00 pm, at the Joseph and Rose Ages Family Building at 21 Nadolny Sachs Private.

For information, contact Francine Paulin at 613-798-4696, ext. 252 or [fpaulin@jewishottawa.ca](mailto:fpaulin@jewishottawa.ca).



Students at Yitzhak Rabin High School with food collected for the Kosher Food Bank.

## Yitzhak Rabin High School answers the kosher food call

By Adam Sadinsky

In response to a request from the Kosher Food Bank, Yitzhak Rabin High School stepped up to the plate and collected more than 200 kosher food items for those in need in our community.

The Student Council and teacher Michael Goodman decided that Rabin had to do something to help out.

February was declared *Tzedakah Month* and a competition was held to see which grade could bring in the most food.

The Grade 11 class won and received a free pizza lunch. Even after the contest, Rabin students continued bringing food to school which was transported to the Kosher Food Bank by the Student Council.

## After Passover Moroccan Jews celebrate Mimouna

By Paul Sheffrin

When Passover ends, Moroccan Jews don't quietly unpack their *chametz*. Instead, they celebrate the Mimouna, a joyous festival believed to have originated in Fez, Morocco. The festivities begin at nightfall with the conclusion of Passover.

Everyone dresses in their holiday finest. Tables are set with white tablecloths bedecked with flowers, green stalks of wheat, pitchers of milk and wine, eggs, dates, honey, assorted fruits, vegetables and sweets. The Jews of Marrakesh, Morocco, have another special custom. They prepare some of the dishes with wine saved from Elijah's Cup, as well as any wine left over from the Four Cups. In many parts of Morocco, it is customary not to eat dairy products during Passover while the Mimouna features dairy products as a special post-Passover treat.

The night's activity consists of visiting home after home, singing songs, exchanging greetings and blessings, and sampling a token food at each house. At each stop, the head of the household blesses the guests. There is also significance to the order of the visitations. People first go to the rabbi's house, then to their parents' homes and then to other homes of significance.

This is also the time for young people to initiate courtships. Men who are already engaged send precious ornaments to their future brides and dine with their future in-laws.

The origins of the celebration are not clear. Some link it to the Hebrew/Arabic word *mammon*, which means 'wealth and money.' It was believed that one's prosperity would be determined on that day.

There are some who believe that the source of the name is Maimon, the father of the Rambam – Rabbi Moshe ben Maimon, better known as Maimonides – and that the day of the Mimouna marks the date of his birth. Or, could it be his death? Who knows?

Others link it to the Hebrew word *emunah* meaning 'faith.'

Since the Children of Israel were redeemed from Egypt in the month of Nisan, tradition has it that so too our future redemption will occur in Nisan. Because most of the month is over by the end of Passover, this 'holiday of faith' is designed to demonstrate that we have not lost faith and still believe that the Messiah can yet come this year.

Whatever the origins, Cantor



Muriel Benlolo makes mufleta in her kitchen.

(Photo: Paul Sheffrin)

Daniel Benlolo of Congregation Beth Shalom has a beautiful explanation.

"As Passover marks the event when Jews stayed in their homes waiting for the angel of death to pass over their houses, so, now that Passover is safely over, we make a

point of going from one house to the other, greeting each other joyfully," he said.

As there are few Moroccan families in Ottawa, the Benlolas have their own way of celebrating the Mimouna. They throw their house in Craig Henry open to friends and

neighbours and share their unrivaled hospitality and joie de vivre. Barely an hour after *Yom Tov* is over, the family have relocated from their downtown basement apartment, where they stay over Shabbat and *Yom Tovim* to be within walking distance of shul, to their

west end home. In no time at all, Muriel Benlolo, assisted by daughters Eve and Shira, has prepared a table groaning with delectable food and festooned with colour and symbolism. It's a magical transformation.

Among the many food items, two are of special note. The first is a strange looking white substance in a large glass bowl. This is flour decorated with bean pods. Of course! Have we forgotten so quickly what flour looks like? Everyone takes a small quantity and quaffs it down with a sip of milk. It's a powerfully symbolic return to *chametz*.

The other unforgettable dish is mufleta, a crepe-like pancake, smothered with butter and honey and rolled up like a cigar.

In the Moroccan tradition, the period of mourning associated with the counting of the Omer does not start until a couple of weeks after Passover. So the Mimouna involves much jollity including Moroccan music, energetic dancing and ululating by the women.

In Israel, the Mimouna has become a popular annual happening featuring outdoor parties and picnics, proving that this festival – so rich in symbolism and joy – has a universal appeal.

## Susan Jackson to speak at Emunah Women event on June 2 at Beth Shalom West

By Leah Cohen

Emunah Women of Canada

How do we make Judaism meaningful to the young in our tech savvy society? How can we incorporate our Jewish heritage into the lives of children who may already be over programmed?

Those are two of the questions that Susan Jackson, executive director of Centre for Jewish Knowledge and Heritage of UJA Federation in Toronto, will discuss in her talk, "The Challenges of the Changing Jewish World," on *Yom Yerushalayim* (Jerusalem Day), Monday, June 2 at Congregation Beth Shalom West.

Jackson, who has worked in such areas as outreach to small Canadian Jewish communities in Canada in the pre-Internet era and planning for the UJA campaign in Toronto, is well equipped to provide an overview of the Jewish world today.

When asked what triggered her interest in such questions, Jackson replied, "My nephews and nieces, the next generation. It's what I live



Susan Jackson will discuss "The Challenges of the Changing Jewish World," on June 2 at Emunah Women's Family-In-Israel event at Congregation Beth Shalom West.

and breathe."

Jackson is particularly interested in the relationship of Canadian Jews

with Israel and has led groups of teenagers from small communities on trips to Israel. With young peo-

ple today facing the difficulties of campus anti-Zionism, she points to Birthright Israel as a positive force in creating positive feelings for Israel in the hearts of youth.

Jackson's address will be on behalf of Emunah Women's Family-in-Israel Program (formerly the Mother-In-Israel Program). Emunah is a not-for-profit organization founded on the ideals of Torah and Zionism whose objective is to provide care for Israelis in need.

The annual Family-In-Israel event is held jointly with Congregation Beth Shalom West.

The program begins at 7:30 pm with *Mincha*, *Tefilah* *hagigat* (festive prayers) and a *Dvar Torah* by Rabbi Howard Finkelstein followed by Jackson's presentation.

A parve buffet and dessert will be served. Cost is \$23 for Emunah members and \$25 for non-members. Beth Shalom West located at 15 Chartwell Avenue in Nepean.

To RSVP, call Rivka Kraus at 613-241-5613 by Wednesday, May 28.

ALL MOVIES ARE IN HEBREW WITH SUBTITLES

# Israel at 60 Film Festival 2008

May 29 - June 15

## OPENING NIGHT: THURSDAY MAY 29

7:00 p.m • Noodle

At thirty-seven, Miri is a twice-widowed, El Al flight attendant. Her well-regulated existence is suddenly turned upside down by an abandoned Chinese boy whose migrant-worker mother has been summarily deported from Israel. The film is a touching comic-drama in which two human beings—as different from each other as Tel Aviv is from Beijing—accompany each other on a remarkable journey, one that takes them both back to a meaningful life. Winner of the Israeli Academy Award for Best Supporting Actress and nominated for 10 others. Winner of the Special Grand Jury Award at the Montréal World Film Festival.

Director: Ayelet Menahemi / Israel, 2007, 35mm, 95 minutes  
A reception to follow. Welcome members of the Beit Halochem



## SUNDAY JUNE 1

7:00 p.m • The Galilee Eskimos  
An isolated and debt-ridden kibbutz in the hills of Northern Israel is abandoned by its residents the night before the bailiffs take over. But in their rush to save all their worldly possessions, the kibbutzniks forget the residents of the old people's home. Twelve senior citizens awake to find themselves abandoned, and, with the land sold, the property developers are moving in. They must use the skills they learned as pioneers to survive.

Director: Jonathan Paz / Israel, 2006, 35mm, 99 minutes

## 9:30 p.m The Officer

Azul is a policeman in Jaffa, whose incompetence is only matched by his soft-heartedness. His superiors want to send him to early retirement, but he would like to stay on the force, and the criminals of Jaffa don't want to see him leave either.

Director: Ephraim Kishon / Israel, 1970, 35mm, 87 minutes

## THURSDAY JUNE 5

### 7:00 p.m • Beaufort

Beaufort tells the story of Liraz Liberti, the 22 year-old outpost commander, and his troops in the months before Israel pulled out of Lebanon. This is not a story of war, but of retreat—a story with no enemy, only an amorphous entity that drops bombs from the skies while terrified young soldiers must find a way to carry out their mission until their very last minutes on that mountaintop. As Liraz lays the explosives which would destroy that very same structure that his friends had died defending, he witnesses the collapse of all he's been taught as an officer and his soldiers' mental and physical disintegration. Nominated for the Oscar for Best Foreign Film 2007. Cedar, who was born in the United States, won an award for best director in the 2007 Berlin International Film Festival for "Beaufort".

Director: Joseph Cedar / Israel, 2007, 35mm, 125 minutes

## Presented by

Canadian Film Institute  
Embassy of Israel  
The Vered Israel Cultural and Educational Program  
Jewish Federation of Ottawa  
Canada Israel Cultural Foundation  
Canadian Friends of Hebrew University

## THURSDAY JUNE 12

### 7:00 p.m • The Secrets

Naomi, the brilliant and pious daughter of an ultra orthodox rabbi finds herself at a crossroads of life when her mother dies, and she is expected to immediately marry her father's prodigy. Distressed yet determined, she begs that her father allow her one year to study at a women's religious seminary in Safed, the birthplace of the Kabala, in order to prepare herself for the sacrifices she will make as a wife. Her father relents and Naomi's life begins to take an unexpected turn.

Devout but lively, Naomi and her new friend Michelle befriend a beautiful, mysterious older woman, Anouk, (Fanny Ardant) who lives nearby. Anouk is ill, may or may not be Jewish and may have committed a crime of passion. Naomi devises a series of rituals which will somehow "purify" Anouk and purge her of her sins, but as these practices stretch the borders of Jewish law, they must be kept secret. Eventually this journey into the forbidden leads to a growing attraction between the two girls and more crossroads are faced.

Director: Avi Nesher / Israel, 2007, 120 minutes

## SUNDAY JUNE 15

### 3:00 p.m • Salach Shabati

A Yemenite Jewish family that was flown to Israel during "Operation Magic Carpet"—a clandestine operation that flew 49,000 Yemenite Jews to Israel the year after the state was formed—is forced to move to a government settlement camp. The patriarch of the family, portrayed by Chaim Topol, tries through wheeling and dealing to make money and get better housing, in a country that can barely provide for its own and is in the midst absorbing hundreds of thousands of Jewish refugees from Arab countries. Humor, sensitivity, politics and music enthrall, captivate and delight the viewer of this capsule of history—brilliantly played and directed.

Director: Ephraim Kishon / Israel, 1964, 35mm, 110 minutes



## Auditorium - Library and Archives Canada - 395 Wellington Street

Members of the SJCC and/or Canadian Film Institute; seniors; students; children 15 and under \$6/Non Members \$10  
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SOLOWAY JCC**

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 Tuesday 9:15 am - 10:15 am / No Class: June 10  
 May 19 - June 23 • 5 weeks  
 Monday 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm / No Class: June 9  
 Age 16+ • \$55M / \$85NM • 5 weeks  
 Instructor: Anna Ekstrandh

## INTRODUCTION TO PILATES

July 7 - Aug. 25 • 8 weeks  
 Monday 9:15 am - 10:15 am / No class: June 9  
 July 1 - August 26 • 9 weeks  
 Tuesday 7:00 - 8:00 pm / No Class: June 10  
 Age 16+ • \$70M / \$100NM • 8 weeks  
 \$75M / \$105NM • 9 weeks  
 Instructor: Vanessa Novini AM,  
 April Dickson PM

## INTERMEDIATE PILATES

July 1 - Aug. 26 • 9 weeks  
 Tuesday 9:15 am - 10:15 am / No Class: June 10  
 July 7 - Aug. 25 • 8 weeks  
 Monday 7:30 pm - 8:30 pm / No Class: June 9  
 Age 16+ • \$70M / \$100NM • 8 weeks  
 \$75M / \$105NM • 9 weeks  
 Instructor: Vanessa Novini AM,  
 Carolyn Franklin PM

## ADVANCED PILATES

July 3 - Aug. 28 • 9 weeks  
 Thursday 7:15 pm - 8:15 pm / Age 16+

\$75M / \$105NM  
 Instructor: April Dickson

## YOGILATES

July 3 - Aug. 28 • 9 weeks  
 Thursday 9:15 am - 10:15 am  
 Age 16+ • \$75M / \$105NM • 9 weeks  
 Instructor: Tamera Dion

## NEW! YOUNG ADULT YOGA

July 7 - Aug. 25 • 8 weeks  
 Monday 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm • Age 18+  
 \$70M / \$100NM • 8 weeks  
 Instructor: Tamera Dion

## HATHA YOGA

July 2 - Aug. 27 • 9 weeks  
 Wednesday 9:30 am - 10:30 am  
 OR  
 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm • Age 16+ • \$75M / \$105NM  
 Instructor: Guru Deep Kaur

## POWER YOGA

July 7 - August 25 • 8 weeks  
 Monday 9:30 - 10:30 am • Age 16+  
 \$70M / \$100NM  
 Instructor: Guru Deep Kaur

## HEARTWISE EXERCISE PROGRAMS

### VITALITY PLUS

Summer: June 30 - August 28 • 9 weeks  
 Monday - Thursday 10:20 am - 11:20 am / No Class:  
 June 9 and 10  
 Instructor: Pat Gowans / Sandra Parmelee •  
 Included in your Chai membership

### FUNCTIONAL FITNESS

July 1 - August 28 • 9 weeks / Tuesday & Thursday  
 11:25 am - 12:10 pm  
 Instructor: Pat Gowans • Free for Chai  
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## AQUAFIT SCHEDULE

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## GROUP FITNESS / AEROBICS

(SUMMER SCHEDULE WILL VARY FROM SPRING SCHEDULE)

SPRING • MARCH 28 - JUNE 27 / SUMMER • JUNE 29 - AUGUST 31

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
6:00 - 7:05 AM			POWERPUMP		
7:35 - 7:45 AM		FAST FIT		FAST FIT	
8:00 - 8:50 AM		AB-SOLUTELY		AB-SOLUTELY	
9:15 - 10:15 AM	HILO	POWERPUMP	CARDIOKICKBOX	POWERPUMP	BODYCAMP
10:20 - 11:20		VITALITY PLUS	VITALITY PLUS	VITALITY PLUS	VITALITY PLUS
10:30 - 11:30 AM		POWERPUMP			
11:25 - 12:10 PM			FUNCTIONAL FIT	FUNCTIONAL FIT	
12:15 - 1:00 PM		CARDIOKICKBOX	POWERPUMP	AB-SOLUTELY	POWERPUMP
1:20 - 1:50 PM				ROCK BOTTOM	
2:00 - 2:30 PM				FAST FIT	
4:45 - 5:30 PM					
5:30 - 6:30 PM		CARDIOSALSA			
5:45 - 6:45 PM			CARDIOKICKBOXING		
5:55 - 6:55 PM			POWERPUMP		
6:00 - 7:00 PM		CARDOKICKBOX			
6:30 - 7:30 PM		POWERPUMP			
6:45 - 7:55 PM				AB-SOLUTELY	
7:05 - 8:05 PM				POWERPUMP	
7:30 - 8:30 PM		AB-SOLUTELY			

SUMMER 2008 / JUNE - AUGUST

AQUAFIT SCHEDULE (SUMMER SCHEDULE WILL VARY FROM SPRING SCHEDULE)

SPRING • MARCH 28 - JUNE 27 / SUMMER • JUNE 29 - AUGUST 31

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
9:30 - 10:15 AM	Aquawaves		Aquawaves	Aquawaves
10:30 - 11:15 AM		Aquawaves		Aquawaves
2:00 - 3:00 PM	Post - Stroke Aquafit			Post - Stroke Aquafit
6:00 - 6:45 PM	After - Work Energizer		After - Work Energizer	
7:30 - 8:30 PM			Movement Improvement	



## Elliott Levitan to speak on the Jewish history of Ottawa's scrap metal industry June 3

By Elaine Brodsky  
for Ottawa Jewish  
Historical Society

There is a long history of Jewish involvement in the scrap metal

industry in Ottawa and the surrounding area dating back to the beginning of the 20th century.

Elliott Levitan will discuss that history in a talk sponsored by the

Ottawa Jewish Historical Society on Tuesday, June 3, at 7:30 pm at Agudath Israel Synagogue.

Levitant's father, the late Maurice Levitan, teamed up with A.H.

Coplan, a buddy from the same shtetl in Russia, to start a scrap metal business in 1905. Levitan family members have been involved in the business ever since.

Levitant will describe the flourishing of the industry in the first part of the 20th century and how it was dominated by Jewish entrepreneurs until the Second World War.

He will also examine how the expropriation of the LeBreton Flats area by the National Capital Commission in the early-1960s and the impact on the various scrap metal businesses there. Some of the businesses relocated while others did not.

Levitant was born in Ottawa and graduated from Lisgar Collegiate. He joined his father and brother Leo in the scrap metal business after graduation and has now been involved in it for more than six decades.

After his father passed away in 1952, he managed the business – Bakermet Inc. – which continued to evolve and grow under his stewardship.



Elliott Levitan will discuss the Jewish history of Ottawa's scrap metal business June 3 at Agudath Israel.

ardship. Two of his children continue to be involved in the business.

The Ottawa Jewish Historical Society anticipates many interesting stories will be woven into the talk. All are welcome.

## SJCC Shira Ottawa Choir to celebrate Israel @ 60 May 26

The Soloway JCC Shira Ottawa Choir will present a tribute to Israel during its annual Musical Mosaic concert May 26.

Favourites, including *Erev Ba* (Evening is Coming), *Lu Y'hi* (Let

it Be), *Shai* (Gift) and *Yerushalayim Shel Zahav* (Jerusalem of Gold) will be featured along with a variety of Canadian and English folksongs, songs of hope and a sing-a-long portion.

Singer-songwriter Shelley Posen will be master of ceremonies and will sing several songs from his popular CDs, *Manna* and *Menorah*, as well as a duet with choir conductor Aviva Kolet.

Aviva Lightstone, who has been with Sbira Ottawa since its inception in 1999, will accompany the choir.

The concert takes place Monday, May 26, 7:30 pm, at the Soloway JCC. Tickets may be purchased from choir members or from the Soloway JCC membership desk.

For information, contact Roslyn Wollock at 613-798-9818, ext. 254.

**The next edition  
of the Ottawa Jewish Bulletin  
will be published  
on Monday, June 16, 2008.**

**The deadline date is  
Wednesday, May 28, 2008.**



### Ottawa Symphony Orchestra OPEN DRESS REHEARSAL

Monday, May 19, 2008 at 2:00 pm  
Southam Hall, National Arts Centre

To request tickets:  
Visit [ottawasymphony.com](http://ottawasymphony.com)  
E-mail [osoticket@on.aibn.com](mailto:osoticket@on.aibn.com)  
Phone 613-231-2561  
Or visit the  
National Arts Centre box office

FREE  
ADMISSION



For ages 9 and up  
One parent for every three children  
This event is made possible by a donation from TELUS.

### OTTAWA B'NAI BRITH BOWLING LEAGUE presents the Second Annual



**Wednesday, August 27th, 2008**

at Cedarhill Golf & Country Club

To honour the memory of **Sid Rothman**: community worker, philanthropist, lawyer, family man, businessman, jester, golfer and bowler extraordinaire

All proceeds to benefit the  
**University of Ottawa Heart Institute**

Barbecue lunch, shotgun start, followed by a steak dinner and buffet, as well as silent and live auctions, and lots of door prizes

Only \$150 per golfer (if registered before June 15th, 2008)

Please register online at:  
<http://www.ottawaheart.ca/UOHI/doc/SidRothman2008.pdf>  
or contact us at [e.weisbloom@sympatico.ca](mailto:e.weisbloom@sympatico.ca) or by calling 613-727-5418

# A post-boomer's kvetch about Just Say Nu

*Just Say Nu: Yiddish for Every Occasion  
(When English Just Won't Do)*

By Michael Wex  
St. Martin's Press  
Hardcover, 2007  
320 pages

As many readers of the *Ottawa Jewish Bulletin* are no doubt aware, Michael Wex forms part of a growing cast of writers to author popular works about Yiddish over the last several decades.

His 2005 book, *Born to Kvetch: Yiddish Language and Culture in All of Its Moods*, became a *New York Times* best-seller, and rightly so. It provided a balance of popular humour and erudite insight into the mechanics of Yiddish that I would recommend to anyone.

Truth be told, with my longstanding aversion to works that reduce Yiddish to inherently funny or tragic, I had initially delayed reading *Born to Kvetch*. However, once I dove in, I found myself unable to put down Wex's expansive account of the roots and development of Yiddish, however popular the tone. Even with an advanced university degree in Yiddish Studies, I learned a great number of fascinating tidbits about the language and culture. Consequently, my expectations for Wex's follow-up, *Just Say Nu: Yiddish For Every Occasion (When English Just Won't Do)*, were very high indeed.

*Just Say Nu* contains the same kind of fascinating tidbits that got me hooked in *Born to Kvetch*, but with far less frequency. For example, sprinkled throughout the second half of the book are all of the principle characters in the Megillah as they appear in Yiddish slang, from the insult, *Hoomen*, to the more obscure *Veizoooseh*, rendered, like all of the Yiddish in the book, in Wex's own brand of Polish-Yiddish orthography, meaning both a jerk and a deprecating term for the male member.

While *Just Say Nu* is marked by Wex's emblematic witty style, the work is far narrower in scope than its predecessor. Whereas *Born To Kvetch* offers a lush Yiddish panorama, *Just Say Nu* offers snapshots designed to prepare the reader to make practical use of the language in daily life, in particular in situations that the author deems would benefit from sporadic Yiddish use: "meeting and greeting; eating and drinking; praising and finding fault; maintaining personal hygiene;

## Book Review

Rebecca Margolis

going to the doctor; driving; parenting; getting horoscopes; committing crimes; going to singles bars; having sex; talking politics and talking trash."

Wex's introduction defines *Just Say Nu* as "a book of Yiddish practice ... designed to help you transform your experience of the world by making Yiddish a part of your daily life." Here Wex follows with a vital question: why "do I need to pepper my conversation with words, phrases, entire sentences and paragraphs in a language that almost nobody knows anymore?" His answer is simply, "Why not?"

Unfortunately, as the Yiddish expression goes, *ot do lig der hund bagrobn*, therein lies the heart of the issue. The question as to why the average person should make a concerted effort to incorporate a little Yiddish into his or her daily life remains unanswered, and readers are left to guess why they might want to begin cursing in Yiddish while cutting someone off in traffic, or learn to shout out Yiddish expressions of pleasure during sex.

Frankly, as a professor of Yiddish, I cannot come up with a convincing rationale for the kind of sporadic Yiddish use that *Just Say Nu* recommends, at least not for a general readership. However, read in a context where Yiddish increasingly serves as a marker of one's heritage and ethnic boundaries, Wex's guide fulfills very particular functions for individuals of Ashkenazi descent seeking to affirm or reaffirm insider status by punctuating their speech with Yiddish.

*Just Say Nu* is sharply geared towards a baby boomer readership. Thus, for example, Wex explains the word *tseshroodlt* as "a whirlpool, and the *tseshroodler*'s head is spinning in a way that Tommy Roe captured perfectly in his mid-1960s hit, 'Dizzy,'" with the song lyrics provided. For the reader who lived through the 1960s, this sort of passage might serve to situate the term in a meaningful way. As a member of

**JUST SAY NU**

Nice  
Tukhes



**Yiddish for Every Occasion  
(When English Just Won't Do)**

**MICHAEL WEX**

a younger generation, these and other pop culture references did nothing to enrich my understanding of the concepts presented in the book.

Finally, even the hardest readers might find themselves shocked by Wex's unabashed use of the 'f-word' in his definitions of Yiddish terms. I understand wanting to convey the grittiness of Yiddish, but I am not convinced that employing English words that cannot be reprinted here is the best avenue.

For those baby boomers who want to relive memories of their parents shouting Yiddish obscenities out the car window, this is the book for you. For everyone else, I recommend reading – or rereading – *Born to Kvetch*.

Rebecca Margolis, an assistant professor at the University of Ottawa, is currently teaching Yiddish language and culture in the Vered Jewish Canadian Studies Program at uOttawa.

## Canadian talks about his secret life in the Mossad

By Diane Koven

When he arrived in Israel in 1982, Victoria, B.C. native Michael Ross had no idea that within two years he would convert to Judaism, marry an Israeli woman, live on a kibbutz, become an Israeli citizen and join the Israel Defence Forces. Or that he'd be recruited into the Mossad, Israel's intelligence agency, following his regular military service.

Ross was in Ottawa April 24 and spoke to 300 people at the sixth annual Canadian Friends of Hebrew University (CFHU) Ottawa Chapter Passover luncheon at Agudath Israel Congregation.

A chance encounter while backpacking through Europe brought Ross on a side trip to Israel. What was intended to be a brief adventure eventually turned into a sojourn of nearly two

decades that is recounted in *The Volunteer: A Canadian's Secret Life in the Mossad*, a book co-written by Ross and *National Post* journalist Jonathan Kay. The book will soon be made into a movie.

Ross related some of the experiences he had while under cover for Mossad. One was a mission to help the Jews of Zimbabwe escape the country when Robert Mugabe, the Zimbabwean president, started to seize the farms of whites in 2000.

Mugabe also "targeted the Jewish community there," said Ross. "My job was to meet with members of the Jewish community and help them to escape. Time was of the essence."

There were complications along the way, Ross said, including a hair-raising roadblock that had been set up to find arms smugglers.

"During this period, I decided I

had pretty much had enough of living that kind of life," said Ross.

"This kind of work can take its toll on you, professionally and personally. Your cover life starts to take over your real life. When you reach that point, you have to go back to Israel and get yourself reassigned."

When asked whether he had been concerned about divulging Mossad secrets, Ross replied that he has the utmost respect for the organization and would not do anything to imperil it.

"I wrote this book as a personal story, not a smear of the Mossad," he said. "There are people in this country and in Europe who owe their lives to the Mossad. Much of its intelligence has been used by, and helps, other countries. Pretty much everything I described in my book can be found on the Internet or in other books."



Former Mossad agent Michael Ross (left) with Rabbi Charles Popky at CFHU Passover luncheon at Agudath Israel Congregation.

(Photo: Irv Osterer)

## VOLUNTEER CORNER

Volunteer Corner is courtesy of the Jewish Federation of Ottawa. All beneficiary agencies are invited to list their volunteer opportunities.

### Volunteer Opportunities JEWISH FAMILY SERVICES

Can YOU make the difference?

If so, contact Lisa Bogdonov, Volunteer Coordinator of the Thelma Steinman Senior Support Services unit 613.722.2225, ext. 327 or [lbogdonov@jfsottawa.com](mailto:lbogdonov@jfsottawa.com).

- Individual needs: A woman who participates in a therapeutic swimming program needs a ride to and from her home in Alta Vista, one day per week (can be any day M-F) ... An elderly woman in the Byward Market area needs a friendly visitor to share coffee, trips to museums, art galleries, etc. ... An elderly lady who likes crafts & sewing would love to meet someone with similar interests to help her get out of the house once in a while. ... An elderly gentleman who enjoys long walks and Torah study could use an occasional companion. Campus area. ... An entertaining lady who uses a scooter is looking for someone to accompany her to Carlingwood shopping centre (walking distance), stay for coffee, etc.
- Transportation: Drivers are needed to transport seniors to and from medical appointments, social opportunities, grocery shopping, etc.
- Kosher Meals on Wheels: Drivers who can deliver on short notice are always at a premium: Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays.
- Friendly visiting: Requests come in constantly from family members needing a visitor for a shut-in. Weekly, bi-weekly or ad-hoc opportunities for someone with a little time and a lot of heart. Chat over coffee, take in a show, go bowling ...
- TeleShalom: We are currently seeking volunteers to place weekday morning reassurance calls to isolated seniors. Each call takes about 2-3 minutes. Can be done from your home, office or cell phone.
- Presenters: JFS hosts several monthly seniors' luncheon programs and is always looking for specialists, artists, musicians, and others who can present for about 45 minutes. Hot lunch in great company.
- Share your expertise: We receive requests for things like filling out forms, putting up a Sukkah, changing dishes for Passover, etc. If you have an expertise to share with someone in need, please let us know.
- Miriam's Well: This distribution program helps to pack and hand out fresh fruits and vegetables on the first Monday of every month.

Please Note: Mileage incurred by volunteers is always reimbursed by JFS.

### THE BESS AND MOE GREENBERG FAMILY HILLEL LODGE

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- Thirsty? Serve drinks to residents every day at 11:30 am. A half hour gets you lots of smiles!
- Free on Fridays? Oneg Shabbat every week at 10:30 am and bingo at 2:00 pm – come join us!
- Cashiers needed to help in the café at lunch (11:45 am to 1:30 pm Monday to Friday)
- Student Special: Your gain is our gain: Do your community hours helping our residents! Daily or weekly, at a time that suits you! *University Students welcome* (please note: children under the age of 14 require adult accompaniment).
- Culture maven? Accompany our residents to museums, concerts and plays! (Wednesday and Thursday afternoons)
- Tuesday Special: Enjoy our special events every week at 2:15 pm!
- Shopping experts? Have Fun! Accompany residents to shopping at a mall (Monday mornings!)
- Special mitzvah anyone? Bring a resident to Shabbos services (Saturdays at 9:15 am) and enjoy the fantastic Oneg with friends! Great chulent!
- Post-retirement planning? Put Hillel Lodge volunteering in your plan! Residents welcome visitors, program assistance, all kinds of options! Pick a day, a time of day, a type of event – whatever suits your schedule! Try it out now!

Community hours in the summer? High school students, get your hours completed by volunteering at Hillel Lodge during the summer months!

To inquire further, please call 613-728-3900 ext. 191 or email [juditbw@hillel-ltc.com](mailto:juditbw@hillel-ltc.com)

*Students welcome* (please note: children under the age of 14 require adult accompaniment)

## The Jewish way of dating

It has been a pleasure writing *Dating 101*. But even good things have an end, and this is my last column. I want to thank the *Ottawa Jewish Bulletin* for the opportunity, and you, my dear readers, for your encouragement and feedback. Dating is an area of life I was very confused about when I was single. I have since gained greater clarity thanks to Jewish teachings.

At present, I'm finalizing my next book, *How to Screen Your Date: Secret Shortcuts to Long-term Happiness*, which will hopefully guide many frustrated and disillusioned singles toward achieving one of their most cherished goals: long-term happiness and fulfillment within a healthy marriage.

In March, I was at Congregation Beth Ora in Montreal leading university students in a discussion on dating. During the Shabbaton, I was taken aback by one participant's remark that dating is something one just does. When I suggested that dating is a purposeful activity that entails planning, strategy and specific guidelines, several students looked at me like I was from Mars.

This experience confirmed something I've long suspected: Young people today are so swayed by Hollywood and so jaded in the face of ubiquitous marital breakdown, that they've settled for a watered down, 'anything goes' concept of dating.

"Dating," according to Rabbi Yaakov Deyo, the inventor of SpeedDating, "is the evaluation period for determining if the couple wants a committed relationship; *dating is not the relationship*."

I shared a quick overview of how courtship in the West has changed dramatically over the last 150 years with the students and pointed out that the (Orthodox) Jewish way of dating is much more in line with the traditional approach than with the modern-day secular approach.

Some of the points we discussed.

**Purpose of dating:** *Jewish* – To determine compatibility for marriage. *Secular* – For fun, sex, romance and companionship; or to learn more about the opposite sex.

**Age at which to start dating:** *Jewish* – Date when you are ready for marriage. *Secular* – Date before you are ready for marriage to acquire experience.

**Development of the relationship:** *Jewish* – Marry as soon as you know with reasonable certainty that it's a match. *Secular* – Once you are in love, marriage is optional, and certainly not urgent. You can do everything – have sex, have kids – without having the wedding.

The dating approach now followed by many Jews lies somewhere in between these two polarities.

Of all the important decisions we make in life, whom to marry is one of the top ones. It greatly affects the quality of our own life and that of future generations. And yet, today, we face unprecedented challenges. In the world of relation-



## Dating 101

Jack Botwinik

ships, most of us are *orphans* – deprived of proper role models, cut off from the wisdom of our ancestors and raised in a culture marked by narcissism and depravity. Insecure and confused, we are left to fend for ourselves.

We rely on lifestyle magazines, movies, romance novels, pop song lyrics, soap operas and other mass entertainment sources to provide us with a steady stream of messages and often contradictory behavioural norms. These media, commercially driven as they are, eagerly nourish our hungry hearts with what we *want* to hear, not necessarily with what we *need* to hear. They define our values, determine our aspirations and influence our behaviours – things that, for centuries, our parents, older relatives, schools and religious institutions used to do.

We all know people who have made *mistakes*, were in dead-end boyfriend-girlfriend relationships, or married the wrong person and endured years of marital conflict, anguish, financial strain and loss of self-confidence. It always amazes me that so many men and women are successful and satisfied with virtually every aspect of their lives, except one. Despite all the self-help books, seminars and private counselling, dating and mating is an area that confounds even the best and the brightest.

There's a pressing need for open and frank dialogue on these life-transforming matters, in schools, through professional workshops, Shabbatons and other venues. And the dialogue and discussion need to be carried out against the backdrop of Jewish values and outlook, which have not only equipped us to surmount an impressive gamut of physical and spiritual challenges through the ages, but also continue to guide countless singles today toward happy, stable and successful marriages.

Jack Botwinik is the author of *Chicken Soup with Chopsticks: A Jew's Struggle for Truth in an Interfaith Relationship*. He can be reached via his Author Page at [www.paper spider.net](http://www.paper spider.net).

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## Bailey inks deal with NHL Ducks

There have been Jewish boys playing hockey in the nation's capital – but few have shown the promise and potential of Jason Bailey.

Born in Ottawa, he played in the Nepean Minor Hockey Association as a youngster showing great promise as an aggressive forechecker and speedy skater.

Bailey attended the Ottawa 67's training camp in 2003 and made the team. However, he felt that an NCAA opportunity would be in his best interest and played with the Central Junior A Nepean Raiders. He also captured a gold medal as member of Team Ontario at the World U17 Championships.

Bailey's mother is an American citizen, which allowed the right winger to play south of the border and, in 2004, he moved to Ann Arbor to take part in the United States National Team Development Program. He suited up for the Americans in 2004-2005 at the Compuware 4 Nations Cup, the Five Nations Tournament in Sweden and the World U18 championships in Pizen, Czech Republic. His playing was noticed by the Anaheim Ducks who made him their round three pick (#63 overall) in the NHL entry draft in 2005.

Bailey spent the next two years attending the University of Michigan, playing for the Wolverines. Although he enjoyed the NCAA experience, his playing style was more suited to the OHL, and, at the end of 2007, he returned home to play for the 67's.

Despite fighting through an injury-plagued season, the Ducks liked what they saw in Bailey's play and inked him to a three-year entry level contract in April.

As Bailey explained to the *O-Zone*, Anaheim was under no obligation to sign him and could have taken another full year to make a decision about whether or not to offer him a contract.

Asked if he regretted leaving the NCAA, Bailey was adamant that the change of scenery was beneficial to his game.

"I loved coming home to play in front of family and friends. I can't say enough about the 67's organization. In the end, things worked out for the best."

Bailey required some off-season surgery and is currently going through a rigorous strength and conditioning program.

What's next for Bails?

He'll be in Anaheim for a one-week conditioning camp in July, will keep on training through the summer, and then heads to the Ducks' training camp in September.

Bailey is not just a terrific hockey player. He's also a real *mensch*. In spite of injuries and a rigorous OHL schedule, time and time again, during his time with the 67's, Bailey was there for the Jewish community whenever called on.

I'm sure all O-Zone readers join me in wishing Jason Bailey a terrific training camp in September as he follows his dream to play in the NHL.

## Sk8terBoy has impressive competitive season

Josh Allen became interested in figure skating at the age of 3 while watching his sister, Emily at the rink. He now skates almost every day, is involved with off-ice Pilates training and does two half-hour sessions of ballet for figure skaters each week. The Grade 5 student at Ottawa's Montessori School represents the Gloucester Skating Club and competes at the Pre-Juvenile level.

Allen began the competition season at the Eastern Ontario BMO Skate Canada Sectionals November 2-4, 2007 in Oshawa, placing 4/7. He also competed in Aylmer, Quebec, where he placed first in the junior bronze flight, and in a local invitational competition held in Morrisburg placing 2/4. Josh finished an impressive 4/14 at the 2008 HomeSense Eastern Ontario StarSkate Invitational Championships held in Napanee February 15-17, 2008. He was the youngest skater in the flight!

## Another great skate!

Still on the figure skating front, Talia Feder was a member of the 2007-2008 Queen's University Varsity Figure Skating Team.

## JCC Maccabi Games in Motown

This August, the Soloway JCC is taking a boys basketball team and a girls volleyball team to the JCC Maccabi Games in Detroit. The competition will feature 3,000 Jewish athletes from around the world. If you're interested in sponsoring an athlete, please contact Jon Braun at 613-798-9818, ext. 267 or [jbraun@jccottawa.com](mailto:jbraun@jccottawa.com).

## Congratulations Corey

Corey Sauvé's Ottawa Sting won the Major Midget AA hockey championship! After beating Cumberland in the preliminaries, the Sting rallied after losing two games to Gloucester to win the second round of playoffs and then swept first place Nepean Raiders in four straight to win it all.

## Jewish Men's Basket Ball League finals

Team White, led by Mark Cantor, Dave Feldberg, Jeff Pleet and Brad Ellison, beat Team Black, led by Ashley Potter, Yaakov "Kobi" Oded, Dan Denofsky and 15 year-old Gavi Stulberg, 57-53 in a defensive struggle.



Irv Osterer

## "Ottawa" team wins Toronto hoops prize

The Suns, featuring former Ottawa JMBL and Maccabiah vets Eric Glube, Steve Presser, David Slover and Ira Udaskin, finished the regular season with a 10-5 record, good for second place in Toronto's B'nai Brith Basketball elite division before going on to capture their second title in the playoffs.

## Football back in the Capital?

A group including Bill Shenkman, Roger Greenberg and 67's boss Jeff Hunt have the CFL considering a return to Lansdowne Park.

## Breakfast of Champions

On Sunday, June 5, celebrate the Jewish community's sports highlights at the annual Breakfast of Champions.



## Israel Hockey News

The blue and white were clearly outmatched at the IIHF Division II U18 Tournament held in Tallin, Estonia. The Juniors failed to win a game and have been relegated to Division III for the 2009 IIHF World Championships.

At the Division II, Group A Championships in Miercurea-Ciuc, Romania, the Israelis started slowly, but rebounded to defeat Bulgaria 5-4 in overtime and then best Ireland 7-1 in their final two matches to finish in fourth place. Team Israel defenceman Ron Soreanu contributed three timely helpers in games against the Bulgarians and the Irish to help Israel consolidate its position in Division II Group A for 2009. Soreanu signed hockey cards for the kids at the Yom Ha'Atzmaut celebrations at the Civic Centre on May 8.

## The weather: a conspiracy or a coincidence?

I'm writing this column at the beginning of May and the temperature last night was close to zero. Like my friend who hasn't yet changed his house from Pesach back to *chometz*, the weather this year is very confusing.

We seem to have gone from winter to summer and now we're having spring. I am trying to come to grips with the mystery of weather in Ottawa in the months of April and May.

This was the first year I had a snow-blowing service that cleared the driveway whenever five centimetres, or more, of snow fell. I was so thrilled not to have to get up early to clear the snow so that we could drive to work. Somebody else did it!

When my kids were living at home, each one would promise to do this work, but they almost always had to hurry to school for an exam on exactly the day I needed them to shovel the snow. Was it a coincidence or a conspiracy? So I ended up with the chore.

With the snow removal service, I had the pleasure of sleeping in, but no authority to direct where the snow landed. We ended up with a pile of snow, 10 feet high, at the foot of the driveway and its remains concerned me in April. So, there I was, shovelling snow off my lawn and



### Humour me, please

Rubin Friedman

onto the driveway. I thought the snow would melt faster spread on the driveway than piled on the lawn. I shovelled that mound for two weeks, but it was hardly noticeable. Yes, the pile grew smaller around the edges, but I could still toboggan down the side. It felt like I might dig up the remains of ancient ruins or, at least, the leftovers of old snowmen.

The backyard, where it is shady, was even more snow-covered. About four feet of snow covered the area without direct sunshine. Who knows what secrets lie buried there? I wonder where my garden hose, or the Jehovah's Witness who wandered away from the front door a few months ago, are.

I am starting to fear this snow will be like a year-long glacier and will still be there in August. Someday, someone will discover an old guy buried in the ice.

It's not that I don't like snow. In fact, I would like them to take some of my snow and use it to fill in the new potholes on the street. In one place, the street has split apart like the Red Sea waiting for the Children of Israel to cross. For the moment, the crack is narrow enough for my car to straddle it with wheels on either side. But I fear the time will come when it will open up so widely that my car will sink into it like the Egyptians into the waves.

I weave down the road, going from one side to the other, trying to avoid the other major holes in the pavement. I am putting all my defensive driving skills to the test. Yesterday, I thought I saw a rollerblader disappear entirely, swallowed perhaps, by the earth like the Israelite worshippers of the Golden Calf.

Meanwhile, I am hiring the snow removal company to mow my lawn over the summer and will pay them extra to remove all the snow before mowing. Again, is it a coincidence or a conspiracy? I'm not sure, but given the Exodus theme of spring, I plan to be on the look out for flies and frogs.

## Jewish podcasts covering music, language lessons and Yiddish news

Lately I've spent more of my Internet time listening to podcasts I've downloaded through iTunes.

I use a Macintosh, so iTunes is built in. Apple provides free downloads of iTunes for PCs at [tinyurl.com/re4w4](http://tinyurl.com/re4w4) (Windows XP and Vista) and [tinyurl.com/ymo6d](http://tinyurl.com/ymo6d) (Windows 2000).

These podcast series can be downloaded, free of charge, from the more than 100,000 podcasts at the iTunes store. For how-to tips, check out [tinyurl.com/345u7z](http://tinyurl.com/345u7z).

Here are a few of Jewish-content podcast series that I listen to on iTunes.

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#### Music podcasts

*The Israel Hour Radio Archives*

*Kol Cambridge – Music from Israel*

These podcast series both claim they're the best Israeli music station on the Internet, but both are disappointing. The Israel Hour's music seems to be too sweet, even saccharine. It sounds to me like the tail end of American pop music in the late 1950s, when it had lost its edge and become a predictably pale imitation of itself.

I have a different problem with Kol Cambridge, which was nominated for the BBC's best student radio award. The podcasts are from Cambridge University and there is only one program that dates from after 2006. The music is interesting, but I don't get a sense of whether it really reflects Israeli audience preferences or is a clever mashup of Israeli-style music contrived by the young Brits at Cambridge.

Rather than the above, what I recommend for mainstream Israeli pop music is the popular Israeli army station, Radio Tsahal, which you can stream directly from their website at [glz.msn.co.il](http://glz.msn.co.il). Given the station's underlying demographic, the playlist taps into the contemporary Israeli musical sensibility. Please note the site is in Hebrew.

#### Klezmer Attitude

Klezmer Attitude comes from the Jewish channel on Radio Lyon in France. New releases are mainly presented in disc jockey style (roundups or a focus on a few singers or groups). The program also makes imaginative, innovative use of familiar pieces as background or incidental music in radio dramatizations of classical stories, for example, a French-language reading of I. J. Singer's *Gimpel the Fool*.

#### American Jewish Music from the Milken Archives

Leonard Nimoy hosted an excellent 13-part series from the ambitious project to eventually record or reissue the entire output of American Jewish music dating from the 18th century to the present on the Naxos record label. The range of what was drawn on by Nimoy was stunning: traditional Yiddish folk songs and show music; American Sephardic music; and modern classical music by such composers like Kurt Weill and Leonard Bernstein. Only the first

## Global Shtetl

Saul Silverman



four broadcasts are available as podcasts from iTunes while the rest of the series is available from Naxos' paid subscription service at [naxosradio.com](http://naxosradio.com). For information on the entire series, visit the Milken Archives site [tinyurl.com/5lijnp](http://tinyurl.com/5lijnp).

#### Sameach Music

Sameach Music is a well-known distributor of Jewish music and their podcasts highlight new or recent releases. When I recently listened, they were bightening Rivkah Krinsky, an Australian-born singer who travels the world singing for Orthodox women. While promotional material specified for a Krinsky concert prominently specified, "for women and girls only," her delivery is soulfully persuasive, and in the privacy of our homes, we can enjoy her singing, irrespective of gender.

#### Language lessons

*Hebrew Podcasts: Learn Hebrew at Your Leisure*

*Learn Hebrew*

Both courses use similar methods: gradated, simple Hebrew conversations. Either one should work reasonably well as an introduction you to modern conversational Hebrew. If you register at their websites – Hebrew Podcasts at [tinyurl.com/6na9q6](http://tinyurl.com/6na9q6) or Learn Hebrew at [tinyurl.com/6q9pgu](http://tinyurl.com/6q9pgu) – you can access learning guides for each podcast, which include a full transcript, translation, explanations and exercises.

#### SBS Israel Report in Yiddish

I searched, but couldn't find, a podcast with Yiddish lessons. But Australia's multicultural radio provides a good series of Yiddish broadcasts. The advantage to these broadcasts is that they are clearly enunciated and, to my ear, delivered more slowly than the usual broadcast pace. Broadcasts cover news and current affairs, culture, tradition and Shoah themes, and a weekly report from Jerusalem.



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Hanna and Karol Goldman on the birth of their grandson by Corinne and Sheldon Taylor and family. Bram and Jess Rothman on the birth of their son by Aunt Corinne and Uncle Sheldon and the boys.

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Continued on page 29

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## In Appreciation

My deepest gratitude to my family and friends for their good wishes and generous donations in honour of my "special birthday." Thank you so much.

Sylvia Freeman

## In Appreciation:

I would like to thank all my family and friends for all their help, cards calls and charitable donations during my recent illness. Your thoughtfulness and generosity was very much appreciated. Please accept this as a personal thank you.

Jack Baylin

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Jeremy and Ariella Miller on the birth of their daughter by Haze Wainberg.

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Steve and Sue Rothman on the birth of their grandchild, Oliver Saul by Rick and Helen Zipes and family.

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Mr. and Mrs. L. Ferris on the upcoming marriage of their son Rod by Rick and Helen Zipes.

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I wish to thank my family and friends for their kind expressions of sympathy on the recent passing of Hy Stoller.

Rita Hornstein

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## The humble chickpea

Chickpeas (also known as garbanzo beans) may seem very ordinary, but their exceptional nutritional value and versatility actually makes them extraordinary. A half-cup of chickpeas packs an amazing six grams of fibre and seven grams of protein. One serving is a mere lightweight at only two grams of fat and 135 calories. You could say that chickpeas are the chameleons of the legume family. As chameleons are able to change their colour to suit their environment, so are chickpeas able to change their flavour and form to suit the dish you're cooking them with.

Chickpeas come in both dried and canned form. Most people buy the canned because of their convenience. But, beware, because not all canned varieties are equal. *Cook's Illustrated Magazine* conducted a taste test and reported the findings in

its May/June 2008 issue. They highly recommend Pastene chickpeas for their "clean, salty – but not too salty – flavour and firm yet tender texture." They also recommend Goya chickpeas, which they found to be "highly seasoned, creamy and nutty." You can find the Pastene chickpeas at Parma Ravioli on Wellington and the Goya brand at Loblaw's.

The first recipe is for Crispy Chickpeas. These make a wonderful topping for salad or pasta, or you could just serve them as a snack with drinks. The second recipe is for a simple Chickpea and Tuna Salad. It has a low-fat creamy lemon dressing and would be perfect for a summer supper when you don't feel like cooking. The third recipe uses chickpea (or garbanzo bean) flour to make a delicious chocolate cupcake. It is great for those on gluten-free diets.



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### Crispy Chickpeas

New York City chef Andrew Carmellini of Orto Restaurant prepared these on the Martha Stewart Show in February. He served them over sautéed spinach, but I love them as an appetizer.

1 can (15 ounces) chickpeas (1 1/2 cups), drained and rinsed  
1 tablespoon all-purpose flour  
3 tablespoons extra virgin olive oil  
1/2 teaspoon coarse salt  
1/2 teaspoon freshly ground black pepper

Place chickpeas on a paper-towel-lined plate to allow any excess liquid to be absorbed. Place flour in a deep bowl; add chickpeas and toss until completely coated with flour.

Heat 3 tablespoons olive oil in a large saucepan over high heat. When oil begins to smoke, add chickpeas, shaking pot to coat chickpeas with oil; chickpeas will begin to snap and pop. Keep shaking or stirring pan occasionally, until chickpeas are golden brown all over, about four minutes. Season with teaspoon salt and pepper; using a slotted spoon, transfer chickpeas to a plate and serve.

### Chickpea Tuna and Onion Salad

#### with Creamy Lemon Dressing

This recipe comes from the August 1999 issue of *Bon Appétit Magazine*. One serving has only 200 calories and four grams of fat.

Serves 4

1/4 cup plain nonfat yogurt  
3 tablespoons low-fat mayonnaise  
1 1/2 tablespoons Dijon mustard  
1 teaspoon grated lemon peel  
1 6-ounce can solid white tuna in spring water, drained  
2 tablespoons fresh lemon juice  
1 15 or 16-ounce can garbanzo beans (chickpeas), rinsed, drained  
1 cup chopped sweet onion (such as Maui)  
1 cup chopped celery  
1 cup cherry tomatoes, halved  
1/2 cup chopped fresh Italian parsley

Whisk yogurt, mayonnaise, mustard and lemon peel in small bowl to blend.

Toss tuna with lemon juice in large bowl. Add garbanzo beans, onion, celery, tomatoes, parsley and yogurt dressing to bowl. Toss to blend. Season salad to taste with salt and pepper. (Can be prepared 6 hours ahead. Cover and chill.)

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## Made with Love

Cindy Feingold



### Gluten Free Chocolate Cupcakes

This recipe was developed by Erin McKenna, owner of the New York City bakery, Babycakes. It calls for several unusual ingredients, which can all be found at Rainbow Foods. Garbanzo and fava bean flour is a blend made by Bob's Red Mill, which Rainbow sells in small bags.

Makes about 5 dozen mini-cupcakes

1/2 cup canola oil, plus more for pans  
3/4 cup plus 2 tablespoons garbanzo and fava bean flour  
1/4 cup potato starch  
2 tablespoons arrowroot  
1 cup unrefined sugar or 10 tablespoons plus 2 teaspoons agave nectar  
2 1/4 teaspoons baking powder  
1/4 teaspoon baking soda  
1/4 teaspoon xanthan gum  
1 teaspoon salt  
1/2 cup unsweetened cocoa powder  
1/2 cup store-bought unsweetened applesauce  
2 tablespoons pure vanilla extract  
1/2 cup brewed coffee or hot water  
2 cups vegan gluten-free chocolate chips, such as Tropical Source

Preheat oven to 325 degrees. Brush 3 dozen muffin pans with oil; set aside.

In a medium bowl, whisk together flour, potato starch, arrowroot, sugar, baking powder, baking soda, xanthan gum, salt and unsweetened cocoa powder; set aside. In a large bowl, mix together applesauce, 1/2 cup canola oil, and vanilla. Slowly add flour mixture, stirring to combine. Stir in coffee until it forms a batter. Fold in chocolate chips.

Place 1 tablespoon batter into each prepared muffin cup. Transfer muffin pans to oven and bake until a toothpick inserted into the centre comes out clean, 12 to 15 minutes. Let cool completely on a wire rack before unmolding.

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## Orthodox picture storybooks that entertain

As far as I'm concerned, the number one rule for a picture storybook is that it must be entertaining. If it's not, I don't review it.

In recent months, Orthodox publishers have been sending me picture storybooks that have been cute, but so heavy handedly didactic, that I immediately put them in my 'don't review' pile.

That is why I am so pleased to review the following two Orthodox picture books.

It is not that they are problem-free. In fact, each requires a bit more suspension of disbelief than is usually necessary for a picture storybook. But both are entertaining in delightfully refreshing ways.

### *Shlomo's Little Joke*

*(A Ba'al Shem Tov Story)*  
By Stern Citron  
Illustrated by Igor Eydel  
Kerem Publishing, 2007  
24 pages. Ages 5-8

*Shlomo's Little Joke* poses one of the key lessons all children, and even some adults, have to learn. Specifically, when is a joke not a joke? Or, to put it another way, what is an appropriate action and what is an inappropriate action, even if it is done with the best of intentions?

Set in an East European shtetl, the story is told in a simple, straightforward manner. It's about Shlomo and his friend, Meir.

Meir has suddenly hit it rich. He throws a party to celebrate his new wealth and invites Shlomo.

Quite by accident, Shlomo sees an open drawer full of gold coins. Upset that Meir isn't more careful with his money, Shlomo decides to teach Meir a lesson.

How? By filling his pockets with Meir's coins and leaving the party.

Of course, Shlomo is not being a *ganif* (thief) because he fully intends to return the money. It's just a joke to teach Meir a lesson. But, every time Shlomo tries to return the money, he isn't able to.

As the days pass, Shlomo becomes more and more ashamed, embarrassed and sick at heart. Finally, he decides that maybe he is a *ganif* after all and may as well spend the money. But he can't spend it in his shtetl or everyone will know what he has done.

En route to a distant place, Shlomo meets a stranger



## Kid Lit

Deanna Silverman

whose first words are, "Go home, and give the money back to your friend."

The intuitive stranger is the Ba'al Shem Tov.

Naturally, Shlomo complies. Meir holds no grudges. And it is Shlomo who has learned a lesson.

Stylized, full-colour illustrations give readers a clear sense of time, place and action, although I would have expected more variation in the facial expressions.

Still, *Shlomo's Little Joke* teaches children that actions, not intentions, have consequences in a gentle, supportive way.

### *Fit for a Princess*

By Risa Rotman  
Illustrated by Tova Leff  
Hachai Publishing, 2008  
36 pages. Ages 3-6

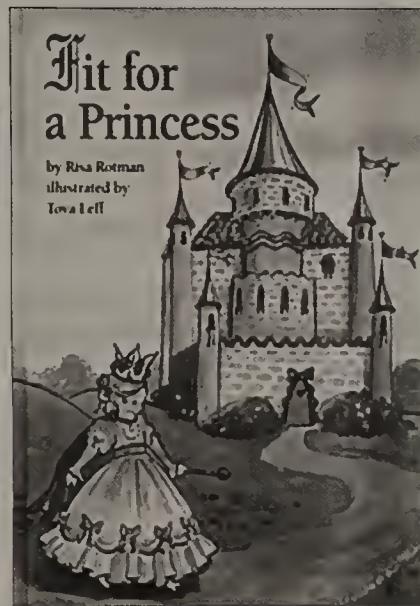
What I like best about *Fit for a Princess* is not its resolution, though that's all right, but its premise. Written as a *once upon a time* fable, this princess dresses like any other fabled princess in a gold crown and long, pink, fluffy gown. But that's where the resemblance ends.

This princess has major responsibilities. She's a hands-on, take-charge princess responsible for the royal library and royal gardens.

So, when her crown and gown repeatedly get in the way of performing her duties, the princess knows she must find a more appropriate way to dress.

Unhappily, the fashions suggested by her royal advisers, though modest, are not acceptable. They all want the princess to reflect their tastes rather than grappling with the full measure of her needs. The princess will just have to come up with the appropriate style herself. And she does.

Humorous, full-color illustrations add a delightfully zany touch to this morality tale about ignoring the world of



By Risa Rotman; illustrated by Tova Leff

fashion and the opinion of others when deciding how to dress. *Fit for a Princess* is, indeed, fit for all the rascally little princesses in our lives.

## Jeff Greenberg

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Prayer (תְּפִילָה)

Special Events

Jewish History

Current Events

Family Programming

Engaging Guest Speakers

Bar/Bat Mitzvah Training

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Sundays

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# WHAT'S GOING ON

## May 19 to June 15, 2008

For a further listings  
visit [www.jewishottawa.org/  
calendar/planitjewish](http://www.jewishottawa.org/calendar/planitjewish)



### WEEKLY EVENTS

#### TUESDAYS

Israeli Folkdancing, no experience or partner necessary, Hillel Academy, 31 Nadolny Sachs Private, 6:30 pm. Info: 613-729-2090.

#### WEDNESDAY, MAY 21

Let's do Lunch – Seniors Protect Yourself! "The ABC's of Fraud," sponsored by Jewish Family Services and Agudath Israel Synagogue, 1400 Colborne Ave., 12:00 pm. Info: 613-3501.

Music Appreciation Series – Music and Poetry, sponsored by the Greener Miles Library, 1:30 pm. Info: 613-3-9818, ext. 245.

The Good Life – Living with

### CANDLELIGHTING BEFORE

May 23 ⚡ 8:18 pm

May 30 ⚡ 8:25 pm

Jun 6 ⚡ 8:30 pm

Jun 13 ⚡ 8:34 pm

Jewish Values, sponsored by JET, 7:00 pm. Info: 613-798-9818, ext. 247.

Book Club, "The Mezuzah in the Madonna's Foot: Marranos and Other Secret Jews," by Trudy Alexy, Congregation Beth Shalom, 151 Chapel St., 7:30 pm. Info: 613-738-9272.

Chuckles & Cheese, stand-up comedy for the whole family, followed by wine and cheese, sponsored by AJA 50+, Library and Archives Canada, 395 Wellington Ave., 7:30 pm. Info: 613-820-1784.

#### FRIDAY, MAY 23

Power, NGOs, and the Politics of Human Rights in the Arab-Israeli Conflict, by Dr. Gerald Steinberg, chair of Political Studies at Bar Ilan University and founder and executive director of NGO Monitor, sponsored by the Public and International Affairs Association, University of Ottawa, Desmarais Building, 55 Laurier Ave., Room 3105, 12:00 pm. Info: 613-863-4953.

Parent and Me Hip Hop Workshop, 2:00 pm. Info: 613-798-9818, ext. 303.

Women's Newcomer Tea, 21 Nanaimo Dr., 2:30 pm. Info: 613-823-9674.

#### SATURDAY, MAY 24

Ottawa Klezmer Band, part of Israel at 60 celebrations, including remarks by dignitaries, Fourth Stage, National Arts Centre, 8:00 pm. Info: 613-947-7000.

#### SUNDAY, MAY 25

White Piano from the Real Shelf: Nostalgia and Yiddish Culture in the Post-Soviet Space, brunch lecture with Professor Anya Sternshis (U of T), sponsored by the University of Ottawa's Intensive Yiddish Program, 10:30 am. Info: 613-562-5800, ext. 2955.

Ottawa Jewish Film Society, "Cemetery Club," a poignant and, at times, humorous film examining two intertwining stories about the strong bonds of family and friendship, 2:00 pm. Hebrew with English subtitles. Info: 798-9818, ext. 245.

Parent and Me Hip Hop Workshop, 2:00 pm. Info: 613-798-9818, ext. 303.

Women's Newcomer Tea, 21 Nanaimo Dr., 2:30 pm. Info: 613-823-9674.

#### MONDAY, MAY 26

Shira Ottawa Choir, "A Musical Mosaic" including a tribute to Israel at 60, 7:30 pm. Info: 613-798-9818, ext. 254.

#### TUESDAY, MAY 27

The Singing Blacksmith/Yankl Der Schmid (with subtitles), film sponsored by the University of Ottawa's Intensive Yiddish Program, Lamoureux Hall 219, University of Ottawa, 2:00 pm. Info: 613-562-5800, ext. 2955.

#### WEDNESDAY, MAY 28

Bridge Tournament, in support of the SJCC, 5:00 pm. Info: 613-798-9818, ext. 266.

Annual General Meeting of the Bess and Moe Greenberg Family Hillel Lodge, 10 Nadolny Sachs Private, 7:00 pm. Info: 613-728-3900, ext. 118.

#### SUNDAY, JUNE 1

Walkathon, sponsored by the Jewish Federation of Ottawa and Soloway JCC, 9:30 am. Info: 613-798-9818, ext. 225.

#### SUNDAY, JUNE 8

Sports Breakfast of Champions, featuring former Ottawa Senator Laurie Boschman. 11:00 am. Info: 613-798-9818, ext. 254.

#### WEDNESDAY, JUNE 11

Annual General Meeting of the Jewish Federation of Ottawa, everyone welcome, 7:00 pm. Info: 613-798-4696, ext. 236.

#### THURSDAY, JUNE 12

Desert Classic Golf Tournament, sponsored by the Soloway JCC, Loch March Golf and Country Club, Kanata, 11:00 am. Info: 613-798-9818, ext. 225.

#### FRIDAY, JUNE 13

University of Ottawa Yiddish student graduation and performance, Simard Hall 125, 60 University Private, University of Ottawa. Info: 613-562-5800, ext. 2955.

#### SUNDAY, JUNE 15

Books and Bagels "Mr. Sampler's Planet," by Saul Bellow, reviewed by Barbara Clubb, head of the Ottawa Public Library, Temple Israel, 1301 Prince of Wales Drive, Ottawa, 9:30 am. Info: 613-224-1802.

Unless otherwise noted, activities take place at The Joseph and Rose Ages Family Building, 21 Nadolny Sachs Private.

This information is taken from the community calendar maintained by the Jewish Community Campus of Ottawa Inc. Organizations which would like their events to be listed, no matter where they are to be held, should make sure they are recorded by Benita Siemiatycki, calendar coordinator at 613-798-4696 ext. 227. We have voice mail. Accurate details must be provided and all events must be open to the Jewish public. You may fax to 798-4695 or email to [bsiemiatycki@ewishottawa.com](mailto:bsiemiatycki@ewishottawa.com).

**Readers and advertisers are advised the next edition of the Ottawa Jewish Bulletin will be published on Monday, June 16, 2008.**

**The deadline date is Wednesday, May 28, 2008.**

**Would you like to advertise in the Ottawa Jewish Bulletin?**

**Contact Rhoda Saslove-Miller • 613-798-4696, ext. 256**

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## Condolences

Condolences are extended to the families of:

George Montain

Ida Mooney/Wilnofsky, Vancouver, (mother of Linda Bonder)

May their memory be a blessing always.

The CONDOLENCE COLUMN is offered as a public service to the community. There is no charge.

For a listing in this column, please call Bev Glube, 613-798-4696, ext. 274. Voice mail is available.

## BULLETIN DEADLINES

**MAY 28 FOR JUNE 16**

**JULY 2 FOR JULY 21**

**AUGUST 6 FOR AUGUST 25**

**AUGUST 20 FOR SEPTEMBER 15 \***

**SEPTEMBER 10 FOR SEPTEMBER 29**

**SEPTEMBER 24 FOR OCTOBER 13**

**OCTOBER 3 FOR OCTOBER 27**

\* Community-wide Issue (all dates subject to change)